

cultivated. The Jambhira, Bāns and Bhairangi rise from the plains of the Sadar subdivision. The Khadkai rises from the Simlāpāl hills and after a tortuous course westwards through the Bāmanghāti subdivision falls into the Subarnarekhā. The Khair and Bhandan are small hill streams which rise in the Simlāpāl hills and fall into the Baitarani after a short westward course through the Pānchpīr subdivision. The Sālandī rises on the southern slope of the Meghāsani mountain and meets the Dhāmra river near its mouth.

The territory of Mayūrbhanj may be divided into three natural divisions. Running due north and south from the central group there are two ranges of hills of lesser elevation dividing the plains portion of the State into two halves, the eastern, which forms the Sadar subdivision, and the western : this latter is again subdivided into two portions, viz, the Bāmanghāti and the Pānchpīr subdivisions by another range of hills running in a westerly direction from the northern portion of the main central group ; thus there are three distinct portions divided off from one another by hill ranges and drained by different rivers. The eastern or the Sadar subdivision slopes gently from the foot of the hills towards the sea and served as it is by innumerable hill streams forms an ideal country for irrigation. The western portion consisting of the Bāmanghāti and the Pānchpīr subdivisions is mainly a rolling plain rising and falling in gentle slopes and studded with innumerable rocky mounds and hills. The soil, specially of the northern or the Bāmanghāti subdivision, is very fertile and lends itself to extensive cultivation. Mayūrbhanj proper, that is to say, such portion of the State as is not included in Bāmanghāti and Nayābasan, consists of hills, jungles and valleys, the latter intersected by mountain streams ; quite 1,000 square miles of Mayūrbhanj is composed of hills, the greater portion of which are as yet inaccessible to commerce, or are so unhealthy as to be habitable only by the rudest jungle tribes. Bāmanghāti consists of open plains, well cultivated and well watered during the rainy season by natural streams.

The approximate areas of the three subdivisions of the State are as follows :—(1) The Sadar subdivision including the central hill group, 2,800 square miles, (2) Bāmanghāti subdivision, 750 square miles and (3) Pānchpīr subdivision, 560 square miles.

A Geological Survey of the State was undertaken by the Chief : **GEOLOGIST.** it was reported that the chief mineral wealth of the State consists in its iron ores, which are possibly among the richest and most extensive in India. They occur in all parts of the State, but specially in the Bāmanghāti subdivision. Usually they consist of hæmatite

and limonite, but thick and rather extensive deposits of magnetite are met with at the foot and along the flanks of the Gurumaisani hill, south-east of Kulaisilā, east of Sundal and also near Kotapiti in the Bāmanghāti subdivision. It is difficult to make even an approximate estimate of the quantity of available iron ores. But it would probably be no exaggeration to say, that a practically inexhaustible supply for several furnaces on a modern scale may be safely depended upon. The ores are easily accessible from the Sini-Kharagpur section of the Bengal-Nāgpur Railway. Limestone in the form of tufa occurs at several places in and close to the iron area.

Red and yellow ochres occur at places and are much used by the Santāls in painting their houses. Gold is washed for in the Subarnarekhā river on the northern border of Mayūrbhanj proper and in the Khadkai and Barhai rivers in the Bāmanghāti subdivision. There is nothing specially noteworthy about these river washings. But at the head waters of the Barhai river about Kudarsāhi and Sāpgherā there is a tract about 2 square miles in extent, where almost the entire alluvium is found to be more or less auriferous. Some 50 families of gold-washers earn their living by gold-washing in this area. They just scrape off the surface soil which is usually the richest, owing, probably, in part, to its being periodically replenished by wash from the adjacent hills during the rainy season, and in part, to natural concentration *in situ* by rain water. Nuggets are occasionally met with, but the largest shown as found in the area weighed half a *tola*.

The auriferous alluvium is of brownish colour, and is thinly spread over micaceous and trappean-looking schists referable to the transition series. It contains more or less gold down to a depth of about two feet. The richest placer deposits were found invariably to occur in the immediate vicinity of dioritic rocks with iron pyrites traversed by thin irregular veins of quartz. There are no quartz-reefs in the area, and it is a curious fact that, though there are good reefs outside the area, no gold is known to occur either in or near them.

West and north-west of Ruānsi and Gohāldangri washed by the Gradiā river and its feeder, and separated from Kudarsāhi-Sāpgherā ground by a low range of hills, there is another area of placer deposit of similar extent. The deposits here are at places 12 to 15 feet in thickness, and consist of rather gritty, brownish, stiff clay resting upon a coarse gravel bed about three feet in thickness. The red rock seen at places is greyish-white micaceous schist with thin veins of quartz. Nuggets weighing as much as two to three *tolas* are reported as having been recently found in the area.

under description. It supports some 20 families of goldwashers settled in it, besides casual visitors from Dhalbhūm.

Mica occurs extensively in Mayūrbhanj proper and in Bāmanghāti, but the plates obtained are small not exceeding two or three square inches. About Jamgoriā the plates obtained from the surface measured more than eight square inches but were necessarily in a much weathered condition. Excavations are in progress to test the quality of the mineral at depth.

Yellowish fossiliferous limestone occurs in the bed of the Burābalang river at Mohuliā, two miles south of Bāripadā. The clays which underlie the laterite about Bāripadā are generally very well suited for pottery.

Potstones, from which utensils are manufactured, occur at various places. Grindstones are made at Kulianā out of the quartzites of the transition series. Agate, flint, jasper, etc., occur in some profusion at places in the Bāmaughati subdivision.

The average annual rainfall for the ten years 1897-98 to 1906-07 was 66·60 inches. The headquarters of the State are at Bāripadā.

According to tradition the Mayūrbhanj State was founded HISTORY. some 1,300 years ago by one Jai Singh, who was a relative of the Rājā of Jaipur in Rājputāna. Jai Singh came on a visit to the shrine of Jagannāth at Puri and married a daughter of the then Gajapati Rājā of Orissa and received Hariharpur as a dowry. Of his two sons, the eldest, Adi Singh, held the *gadi* of the Mayūrbhanj State. The annals of the Mayūrbhanj Rāj family, however, say that Jai Singh came to Puri with his two sons, Adi Singh and Jati Singh, the elder of whom was married to a daughter of the Puri Rājā.

When returning home Jai Singh conquered Rājā Mayūradhwaja then holding the *gadi* of Bāmanghāti. In the vernacular almanac written annually in the Mayūrbhanj State, this Bāmanghāti is regarded ever since that period as the original place of residence of the Rāj family, and the State is called after Mayūradhwaja. In every State seal the design of a peacock was introduced as a family distinction. According to family tradition the limits of the State of Mayūrbhanj from the year 1538 A.D. up to the year 1831 extended to Bhanjbhūm and Khelōr *parganas* in the north; to the Balasore district in the east; to the Nilgiri State in the south-east; to the Baitarani river in the south; and to Porāhāt and Dhalbhūm Rāj in the west. The area of the State has greatly decreased from what it originally was. *Pargana* Bhanjbhūm, which is in the neighbourhood of Midnapore town, was given to the Midnapore Rājās by Mahārāja Santāi Bhanj

about the year 1556. *Pargana* Khelur was also given to them by Mahārāja Jagannāth Bhanj about the year 1643, and both are still in their possession. *Pargana* Nayābasan, which is also in the Midnapore district, became a revenue-paying *mahāl* of this Rāj from before the time of the Permanent Settlement of Bengal. Nilgiri State was a subordinate zamindari of the Mayūrbhanj State up to the year 1728, since which year it has been separated and made independent of Mayūrbhanj. Four large *pīrs* of Bāmanghāti, named Thāi, Bhorbhorā, Aulā and Lalghar, were, it is said, made over to the British Government by Jadunāth Bhanj, great-grandfather of the present Chief, during the Kol rebellion between the years 1830 and 1834. They are now part of the Kolhān in the Singhbhūm district. *Pīrs* Khauchang and Haldipokhur, now in the Singhbhūm district, formerly formed parts of Bāmanghāti. The former was given to Abhirām Singh of Saraikeā. The latter, now a portion of the Dhalbhūm Rāj, was given to the Dhal Rājā.

No *farman* or *sanad* from the Emperor of Delhi or from the Marāthās is available. It is alleged that in the time of Mahārāja Dāmodar Bhanj, a near relation of his was deputed to Delhi and there is said to have obtained a copper *sanad* from the Emperor. This *farman* is not now, however, forthcoming.

The tribute of this State was fixed in 1812 at Rs. 1,001 on the then Chief of the State agreeing to forego his claim to levy a tax on pilgrims who had to pass through the State on their journey to and from Jagannāth. No treaty was concluded with this State in 1803 and 1804 as was done with the other States of Orissa and it was, therefore, not included in the list of States mentioned in section 36 of Regulation XII of 1805. When the British conquest of Orissa took place in 1803, Mayūrbhanj presented the then unique spectacle of a Rānī occupying the *gadi* in the person of Rānī Sumitrā Dei Bhanj.

On her death in 1811, the succession devolved on Tribikram Bhanj, an adopted son taken from the Keonjhar family. He executed two *ekdrānāmās* or agreements—one in 1812 and the other in 1815. On his demise, he was succeeded by his son Jadunāth Bhanj with whom a treaty engagement was entered into in 1829.

In 1866 the subdivision of Bāmanghāti was taken under the direct control of Government on account of the then Chief's mismanagement, but it was restored in 1878 to the present Chief's father, Mahārāja Krishna Chandra Bhanj Deva, who was an able and enlightened ruler. He was created a Mahārāja in 1877 for his efficient administration of the State and for his public

liberality, the most prominent instance of which was his donation of Rs. 27,000 towards raising the Cuttack High School to the status of a College.

After his death in 1882, the State came under Government management owing to the minority of his son, the present Chief, Srīrām Chandra Bhanj Deva, who was placed in charge of the State in 1890. He received a liberal education, and is the most enlightened of the Garhjat Chiefs. The administration of his State is carried on on British lines under his personal supervision. He was a guest of the Government at the Imperial Darbār held at Delhi on the 1st January 1903. The title of Mahārāja was, on the same occasion, conferred on him as a personal distinction. A gold Delhi Darbār medal was awarded to the Mahārāja and a silver medal to one of his *sardars*.

The population of the Mayūrbhanj State is, according to the THE PEOPLE. census of 1901, 610,383, of whom 303,266 are males and 307,117 females. The density of population is 144 per square mile. Bāripadā, the headquarters station, is the only town in the State containing a population of 5,613 persons. The rest of the population, viz., 604,770, are distributed over 3,593 villages, which may be classified as follows:—2 villages with from two thousand to five thousand inhabitants, 13 with from one thousand to two thousand inhabitants, 114 with from five hundred to one thousand inhabitants, 3,464 with less than five hundred inhabitants. The average number of villages per square mile is 0·84; persons per village, 169·83. The number of houses according to the census statistics of 1901 is 121,958 and the average number of persons per house is 5·00 and the average number of houses per square mile 47. The population of the State is rising rapidly as will be seen from the following table:—

Population at the census of 1872.	Population at the census of 1881.	Population at the census of 1891.	Population at the census of 1901.
258,680	385,737	532,238	610,383

The opening out of the State by roads and the security to life and property which the administration affords has led to rapid immigration from the congested districts in the neighbourhood. Large tracts of culturable waste and jungle lands which awaited exploitation acted as an inducement for immigration, and along with the rise in the population the cultivated area has also proportionately increased.

Ethnical
division
of the
people.

The population is mainly Hindu consisting of 606,223 persons including Animists (93,485), the number of Mussalmāns being 3,785, Christians 368, and others 7 only. Of the Hindu population, the aboriginal and semi-Hinduised tribes preponderate enormously over the purely Hindu population. The number of the principal aboriginal tribes who form 56·52 per cent. of the total population is as follows:—(1) Santāl 185,149, (2) Ho or Kol 67,768, (3) Bhumij 56,157, (4) Kurmi 35,968. The number of the principal semi-Hinduised tribes who form 16·4 per cent. of the total population is:—(1) Bhuia 31,753, (2) Bathudi 28,128, (3) Pān 24,762, (4) Gond 6,280, (5) Khond 5,833, (6) Savar 1,873, (7) Kewat 1,445. The number of the principal Hindu castes who form 13·89 per cent. of the total population is:—(1) Brāhman 8,308, (2) Khandait 15,365, (3) Chasā 1,007, (4) Gaurā 29,861, (5) Kāmār 10,880, (6) Kumhār 8,667, (7) Tānti 4,568 and (8) Teli 6,121. A population in which the aboriginal element preponderates is necessarily backward in education which is confined more or less to the pure Hindu element. The number of persons who can read and write is 13,115 or 2·14 per cent. of the total population, of whom 340 or 0·05 per cent. can read and write English.

Christian
Missions.

At present there are two centres for Mission work in Mayūrbhanj, one at Bāripadā, the headquarters of the Mayūrbhanj State, and another at Nangalkatā, 8 miles from Bāripadā on the Bāripadā-Balasore road. The former belongs to the Baptist missionaries, and was started in 1894. The Mission which is called "The Mayūrbhanj State Mission Council" has obtained from the Chief a lease of 4·68 acres of land. The Mission at Nangalkatā belongs to the Roman Catholics.

Material
condition
of the
people.

The great majority of the people are agriculturists and the prosperity and contentment of such a population depends mainly upon the rainfall and crops. The failure of crops in a single year means widespread distress. Since the great famine of 1866 the State has however been free from the visitations of famine or even of severe scarcity. With the opening up of the State by roads and the Mayūrbhanj State Light Railway, the prosperity of the people has steadily increased. Each year fresh jungles are reclaimed and the areas already reclaimed are improved and the holdings of the tenants are increasing in quantity and improving in productive quality year by year. This is specially noticeable in those tracts where jungles preponderate over the cultivated area, and testifies to the prosperity of the tenants. The fixity of tenures and the rights of occupancy conferred upon the tenant have materially contributed to his well being. The system of

granting land improvement loans each year has also helped in the development of the State; the standard of comfort of the tenant has changed for the better and his purchasing capacity has increased. In the markets, articles of European manufacture find ready customers: umbrellas, towels, brass utensils and bell-metal ornaments are much in evidence amongst the aborigines. Trade and commerce, specially in timber and in minor forest produce, has increased enormously in recent years, and this has given employment to a large number of the labouring classes.

The climate of the State is fairly healthy. The hill and the jungle tracts are however malarious. Fever is the most prevalent disease in the State and accounts for the largest number of deaths. Vital statistics are not kept except in the following localities:—

		Death rate per thousand, 1906-07.
Bāripadā town	...	34·45
Olmarā thāna	...	34·75
Baisingā „	...	29·72
Mordā „	...	16·00

Cholera epidemics break out in different parts of the State almost every year during the summer. Small-pox also occurs in epidemic form at intervals. Vigorous vaccination operations during the last 12 years have, however, minimized the ravages of this scourge.

The number of dispensaries in the State is six, distributed as follows:—(1) Bāripadā town, (2) Bahaldā, (3) Karanjā, (4) Kuāmarā, (5) Bāngripōsī, and (6) Mordā. These dispensaries are in charge of qualified Hospital Assistants. The Medical Department of the State is under the charge of a qualified Medical Officer of the Assistant Surgeon class. The number of indoor patients treated in the State dispensaries in 1907-08 was 272, and of outdoor patients 35,695. The daily average attendance of indoor patients was 14·07, and of outdoor patients 233·49. The number of persons vaccinated in that year was 24,109, and that of persons revaccinated, 251.

The principal crops and their varieties grown in the State are—
(1) cereals, (2) pulses, (3) oil-seeds, (4) root crops, (5) fibre crops, (6) sugarcane, (7) cotton, (8) tobacco, and (9) vegetables.

The cereals grown are rice and millets.

The rice grown here is divided into two classes: *āman* (winter) and *aus* (early). The varieties of *āman* paddy are:—(1) *Champāiali*, (2) *Baidyanāth*, (3) *Nāradi*, (4) *Ganjājatā*, (5) *Barasali*,

(6) *Rakatbol*, (7) *Madnā*, (8) *Kalāsāru*, (9) *Haldiguri*, (10) *Gayabāli*, (11) *Dasrāgeti*, (12) *Dumerkūdi*, (13) *Jaldubi*, (14) *Borhāmākā*, (15) *Bānagajā*, (16) *Hātīpanjar*, (17) *Raghunāthbhog*, (18) *Gopālbhog*, (19) *Pānakhiā*, (20) *Mohanbhog*, (21) *Iwarjālā*, (22) *Pimpribās*, (23) *Rangani*, (24) *Kāntarangani*, (25) *Kashiphula*, (26) *Saharchampā*, (27) *Sundarphenā*, (28) *Mirjui*, (29) *Maināsati*, (30) *Sārangiphula*, (31) *Kantakapur*, (32) *Chingrikayā*, (33) *Harnākayā*, (34) *Bhāluchari*, (35) *Charāināki*, (36) *Nariyāsoli*, (37) *Dhurid*, (38) *Tikāmuriidā*, (39) *Kālīā Simulkasi*, (40) *Agnisoli*, (41) *Hemtarangi*, (42) *Lāl Simulkasi*, (43) *Berhākābri*, (44) *Sālgajā*, (45) *Thubirangi*, (46) *Karākachu*, (47) *Kadalmundi*, (48) *Mālāti*, (49) *Kakurimanji*, (50) *Jaradā*, (51) *Khejurchangā* and (52) *Kalājirā*.

The outturn of *āman* rice varies from 8 to 20 maunds per *mān* according to the class of land, one *mān* of land being about $\frac{1}{3}$ of a standard acre or 0.698 acres.

The varieties of *aus* rice are :—(1) *Geti*, (2) *Bhālukhumri*, (3) *Simulkasi*, (4) *Karni*, (5) *Arkulā*, (6) *Tusku*, (7) *Tāchirā*, (8) *Ulukai*, (9) *Chanāchitā*, (10) *Bāganmanj*, (11) *Hātīpanjar*, (12) *Dudhniāti*, (13) *Kārtikgeti*, and (14) *Gorādhān*. The outturn is from 5 maunds to 8 maunds per *mān*.

Both the *āman* and *aus* rice are sown in Jyāistha (May-June), but the former is reaped in Pausa (December-January), while the latter is reaped in Bhādraba (August-September). The *āman* rice is also transplanted in Srābha (July-August). The outturn of transplanted paddy is higher than that of sown paddy.

Millets.

The varieties of millets are :—(1) *Gundlu*, (2) *Kāngu*, (3) *Kodo*, (4) *Bājra*, (5) *Jowār* black and (6) *Makā* (maize).

The average outturn of the millets is about 4 maunds per *mān*. They are generally sown in Asādh (June-July), and reaped in Bhādraba (July-August).

Pulses.

The principal kinds of pulse grown in this State are :—(1) *Birhi* and *māskalāi*, (2) *Bāijā māga* and *krishna māga*, (3) *Arhar*, (4) *Kulhi*, (5) *Khesāri*, (6) *Chanā* (gram), (7) *Rambhā*, etc. They are generally sown in Ashwin (September-October), and reaped in Agrahāyan (November-December). The outturn of these pulses is 4 maunds per *mān*.

Oil-seed.

The principal oil-seeds grown in this State are :—(1) *Surgujā*, (2) *Til—bhādoi* and *māghi*, (3) Linseed or *tisi*, (4) Mustard—*Turi* and *Rai*, (5) Castor.

The outturn of *Surgujā* is about 2 maunds per *mān* : and that of *til* is 2 to 2½ maunds per *mān* : the average outturn of *tisi* (linseed) is 4 maunds per *mān* : it grows in *āman* (winter rice) lands and is sometimes sown when the *āman* paddy is still standing on the land : the outturn of mustard is 1½ to 2 maunds per

mān. The winter variety of castor yields a larger proportion of seed and oil than *bhādoi* castor. The yield of castor varies from 4 to 5 maunds per *mān*.

The principal root crops that are generally raised in this State are :—(1) Potato, (2) Dioscoria Sativa, (3) Cassava, etc. Root crops.

(1) Potatoes are grown in small quantities by a few well-to-do people in the town of Bāripadā and in the subdivisional headquarters. Some of the poorer cultivators of the interior have also commenced growing this crop on a small scale. The outturn of the Patna variety is from 30 to 40 maunds per *mān*, while that of the Nainital variety is from 30 to 50 maunds per *mān*.

(2) Dioscoria Sativa or *khamālu* is grown here as a garden crop. Besides this there are some crude roots which grow wild in the jungle such as *pānālu*, *tungālu*, *chundālu*, *sakarkandālu*, etc., and the majority of the wild tribes of this State live upon them in time of scarcity but they never cultivate these roots.

(3) Cassava.—Some of the tenants of the State grow sweet cassava which can be eaten raw; being a drought-resisting plant it can be planted at any season, which is a great advantage in famine prevention. The total outturn from the roots of cassava is nearly 200 maunds per *mān*.

The principal fibre crops grown are :—(1) Jute both Sirāj- Fibre crops.
ganji and *deshi* and (2) Kanra.

(1) Jute cultivation is generally increasing among the tenants of the State. Most of the cultivators grow it on their homestead lands for their own use, i.e., for making ropes, etc., but some of the tenants cultivate it in *dāhi* land for profit, but the outturn is poor. The yield of jute is 3 to 4 maunds per *mān*.

(2) Kanra.—Bombay or Deccan locally known as hemp. It is superior to jute in every respect. Rocky and laterite soils which are not suitable for jute cultivation are well adapted for its cultivation. The average outturn of this fibre is 6 to 7 maunds per *mān*.

The varieties of sugar-cane grown are—(1) *Dhābā* (white), Sugar-cane.
(2) *Khari* and (3) *Sāmsādrā*.

The outturn of *gur* (molasses) is nearly 20 maunds in addition to $2\frac{1}{2}$ maunds of clean molasses per *mān*.

Two varieties of cotton are generally cultivated, *kharia kapā* Cotton.
(annual) and *burhi kapā*. The average outturn of cleaned cotton varies from 10 to 15 seers per *mān*. The Sambalpur variety growing in the State Experimental Farm seems to be well adapted to this State.

Tobacco.

Tobacco of inferior quality is cultivated by the poorer classes of the Bāmaṅghāti subdivision on homestead land for their own consumption. Five maunds of dry tobacco leaf on the average is said to be obtained by the cultivators from one *mān* of land (homestead) but a well grown crop is expected to yield 10 to 12 maunds per *mān*.

Vegetables.

The following vegetables are generally grown in this State:—(1) Brinjal, (2) Chillies, (3) Pumpkin, (4) *Kachu* or *sāru*, (5) Earth potato, (6) *Karala*, (7) *Kundru*, (8) *Kākuri* (cucumber), (9) *Phuti*, (10) *Tarbhuṅ* (water melon), (11) *Bhendī* (okra), (12) Sim (bean), (13) *Barbati* and (14) *Mūlā* (radishes).

Foreign vegetables such as cabbages, cauliflowers, etc., are grown on a very small scale by a few well-to-do inhabitants.

Agricultural implements.

The principal implements of agriculture in use are—(1) The plough—the local cost of the plough is Re. 1 each. (2) A beam used for breaking clods and levelling lands—the average cost of a beam is Re. 0.6-0 (3) *Korol*.—It is generally used for levelling the field. The average cost of this implement is not more than Re. 1-14. (4) The *sagar* or solid wheeled cart—it is used for carrying manure to the field, and for carrying unthreshed paddy to the farmyard. The average cost of it is nearly Rs. 3. (5) *Bāngi*.—It is a carrying rod made of an elastic piece of wood or bamboo and is used for carrying seeds, etc. The cost of a *bāngi* is nearly As. 3. (6) *Buriā* or axe.—It is used for cutting wood, etc., and costs 2 to 4 annas. (7) *Bindhum* or *nihan*.—An iron rod used for boring holes in wood, costing 2 annas each. (8) *Bārshi*.—It is a kind of axe larger and heavier than *buriā* used for making carts (*sagars*), etc., and costs 6 to 12 annas. (9) *Sabal*.—It is a heavy iron rod used for making holes in the soil. It costs Re. 1 each. (10) *Gainti* or pick-axe.—It is used for digging trenches and removing small stones; the cost is 10 to 12 annas. (11) *Da* (sickle)—used for reaping paddy, etc., and costs 2 annas. (12) The spade or *kodāli* costs 12 annas to Re. 1-4 each. (13) *Gūāchikatā*.—It is a small spade used for removing paddy plants after the weeding has been finished from congested parts of the field to parts less thickly planted. It costs 1 to 2 annas. (14) Basket.—It is used for carrying manures, etc., and it costs 1 anna. The total cost of agricultural implements for one "plough" of land or 6 acres is about Rs. 12 approximately. Bullocks as well as buffaloes are employed in agriculture. The number of bullocks used for agriculture exceeds that of buffaloes by 98 per cent. A pair of buffaloes perform 50 per cent. more work than a pair of bullocks. The price of bullocks varies from Rs. 20 to Rs. 60 per pair, while a pair of buffaloes will cost Rs. 30

to Rs. 60. The cattle of the State have considerably degenerated on account of insufficient fodder supply. The fodder is sufficient on the grazing ground during the rainy season, but as soon as the rains are over the green fodder disappears and the cattle are fed on straw in insufficient quantities and are reduced to skeletons. They are not fed here on oil-cakes or grains. The supply of oil-cake is very limited. The estimated cost of cultivation per *man* is Rs. 9-4-0.

As the outturn of paddy is 8 to 20 maunds per *man*, the cultivator gets Rs. 24 to Rs. 60 per *man* calculating the price of paddy at Rs. 3 per maund.

The manures used are cow-dung, ashes and silt of old tanks. The banks of tanks situated near the rice fields are cut through and the water is allowed to pass through the rice fields. There are two kinds of embankments—(1) embankments constructed across a sloping depression, between two ridges of upland. All the water that falls on the elevation during the rainy season flows down to the bottom of the depression, and is arrested by the embankments; (2) embankments raised across the stream diverting their water into artificial channels leading to the rice fields. Rotation of crop is seldom practised by the people. It is confined to uplands (*gorā*). On *berhā* lands some well-to-do and industrious cultivators sow *khesdri* in September before the paddy crop has been reaped. On *jal* lands which are very fertile, mustard or *māga* is sometimes sown after harvesting the rice crop. Double crops are, however, raised by very few tenants of the State. The fertile uplands (*gorā*) are alternately cultivated with *gorā* paddy in one year and mustard, *surgujā* and *til* in the next. Maize or *makā* is sown with cotton, *arhar* with *gorā* paddy and *gangi* with *makā*. On very fertile *gorā* lands containing a large proportion of clay, gram is sown with mustard, but gram cultivation is extremely limited.

The State has not suffered much from natural calamities. There was a heavy flood in September 1900 and some damage was caused, but it was nothing compared to the loss of life and crops which occurred in the neighbouring district of Balasore. The great cyclone of May 1887 which passed over Orissa caused some damage, but its effect was very much less destructive in the State than in the British districts of Orissa. The only natural calamity which affects intimately the welfare of the people is deficient rainfall or its uneven distribution. Since the great Orissa famine of 1866 this State has been spared from another such visitation although scarcity, more or less severe, has occurred. Experience shows that favourable rainfall from the middle

Manure
and
irrigation.

Rotation
of crops.

NATURAL
CALAMITIES.

of June to the end of September, a fall of about 2 inches in October and half an inch early in November will suffice to mature the winter paddy, the staple crop of the State. If there is unusual fluctuations in the rainfall the winter paddy crop suffers. The main population of the State being aboriginals, who even in normal years supplement their food supply by fruits and roots taken from the jungles and whose standard of living is very low, a year of scarcity is tided over with comparative ease provided there is no failure of the edible jungle fruits and roots and the State comes forward to their help in proper time by opening relief works in the affected areas and in granting *taccavi* loans.

The *man* is the standard land measure; it is equivalent to 0.698 acre. The following table classifies the different average rates of rents per *man* prevalent in the State according to the latest settlements:—

RENTS,
WAGES
AND
PRICES.

NAME OF SUBDIVISION.	1st class winter paddy land.	2nd class winter paddy land.	3rd class winter paddy land.	4th or early paddy land.	Dahs or upland.	Kald or homestead.
	Rs. A P.	Rs. A P.	Rs. A P.	Rs. A P.	Rs. A P.	Rs. A P.
1. Mayurbhanj sub-division proper	1 6 6½	1 3 1½	1 0 0	0 6 4		1 5 5
2. Bāmaghātī sub-division.	1 3 0	0 13 0	0 9 0	.	0 2 0	...
3. Pāncipitr sub-division.	0 13 4	0 10 0	0 8 4	...	0 2 0	...

The average rates of assessment per *man* for 1st, 2nd and 3rd class rice lands of the State taken as a whole are Re. 1-2-3½, Re. 0-14-3½ and Re. 0-11-4, respectively, and for uplands Re. 0-3-1.

The rise in the price of food-grains, especially rice, which has been observable during the last five years, has been a benefit to the cultivator. The rise in the price has enabled the cultivator to earn almost double the money which he used to get by the sale of the surplus stock of his grains in previous years. With this saving the cultivator has been able to buy cattle and indulge in luxuries. Many cultivators who used to be in a state of chronic indebtedness were enabled to pay off their debts. To the labouring classes the rise in the price of food-grains has not been an unmixed blessing, but the number of labourers who own no land at all is very small in the State, and even these labourers are paid in the *mofusil* not in cash but in kind. The labourers in the town of Bāripadā and those who are employed in sleeper operations or under traders and *mahājans* are paid in cash and not in kind, but in their case the rise in the price of

food-grains has led to a rise in the rate of wage. The following table compares the prices of food-grains and the wages of labour during the last 10 years.

Price of food-grains during last 10 years from 1897-98 to 1906-07.

NAME OF ARTICLE.	SEERS PER RUPEE IN—									
	1897-98.	1898-99.	1899-00.	1900-01.	1901-02.	1902-03.	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1906-07.
1. Paddy (unhusked rice)	36	48	48	50	50	60	60	60	40	19
2. Rice	16	24	20	20	16	18	16 to 24	16 to 22	10 to 13	8 to 10
3. Birkhi	13	21	24	21	21	21	18	16	16	14
4. Muga	12	20	20	15	20	10	16	14	10	8
5. Arhar	20	21	24	21	20	18	24	20	18	14
6. Kulthi	32	32	21	32	32	32	32	30	30	30
7. Ohand	16	12	16	13	16	13	16	14	12	10
8. Gur (molasses)	5	6	8	6	6	8	8	6	5	5
9. Mandia	..	..	..	..	32	32	32	30	24	20

Daily wages of labour during last 10 years from 1897-98 to 1906-07.

KIND OF LABOUR.	1897-98 per head.	1898-99 per head.	1899-00 per head.	1900-01 per head.	1901-02 per head.	1902-03 per head.	1903-04 per head.	1904-05 per head.	1905-06 per head.	1906-07 per head.
Unskilled male labourer.	1½ a. to 2 as.	1½ a. to 2 as.	1½ a. to 2½ as.	1½ a. to 2 as.	1½ a. to 2 as.	1½ a. to 2 as.	2 as.	2 as. to 2½ as.	2 as. to 2½ as.	2½ as. to 3 as.
Unskilled female labourer.	1 a. to 1½ a.	1 a. to 1½ a.	1 a. to 1½ a.	1 a. to 1½ a.	1 a. to 1½ a.	1 a. to 1½ a.	1½ a.	1½ a. to 2 as.	1½ a. to 2 as.	2 as.
Skilled labourer such as carpenters, blacksmiths, tailors, masons, etc.	4 as. to 6 as.	4 as. to 6 as.	4 as. to 8 as.	4 as. to 8 as.	4 as. to 8 as.	4 as. to 8 as.	4 as. to 8 as.	4 as. to 8 as.	4 as. to 8 as.	4 as. to 5 as.

The majority of the population of the State are agriculturists. Even the labouring classes who earn their living by engaging in labour own a few *mans* of land for cultivation, and it can be said that over 97 per cent. of the population are agriculturists or engaged exclusively in agricultural labour. The non-agriculturists are confined to Bāripadā, the headquarters of the State, and to the subdivisional headquarters. Their number in the interior is infinitesimal. The only manufactures which are worth mentioning are the manufacture of coarse cloth

OCCUPATIONS,
MANUFACTURES
AND
TRADE.

mostly by Pāns and of tusser fabrics by Tāntis in Olmarā pargana and in the Bāmanghāti subdivision. The aboriginal population show preference for coarse cloths locally manufactured as they are more durable and can stand rough usage better than the finer mill-woven counts. The manufacture of tusser fabrics formed an important industry formerly, but it is declining at the present moment owing to keen competition. The Tāntis who were formerly solely engaged in it are turning to agriculture. Owing to the opening up of the State by roads and by the Mayūrbhanj State Light Railway the manufacture of sleepers in the fine forests of the Simlāpāl hills has received an impetus and very large quantities of sleepers are being exported within the last few years. Cultivation of tusser cocoons and of lac is an important occupation of the aboriginal populations. These two industries which were in a decaying stage show signs of reviving. The important articles of export are paddy, rice, oil-seeds, forest produce, such as timber, tusser cocoons, lac, myrobalans, nux vomica, etc. The principal articles of import are salt, kerosene oil, cotton yarns and other fabrics, etc.

MEANS OF
COMMUNI-
CATIONS.

The headquarters of the State is connected by a narrow gauge railway with the Bengal-Nāgpur Railway at Rūpsā. The line is 33 miles long and was constructed by the State. The total capital expenditure incurred up to the end of December 1907 was Rs. 7,17,144-1-10, and the line was opened to traffic in January 1905.

During the short time that it has been in existence the development of trade has been extensive especially in paddy, fire-wood and sleepers. Many traders from outside have established businesses in the State and others have gone in for reclamation of jungle lands for agricultural purposes along the railway line.

The total mileage of metalled roads was 149.50 miles and that of unmetalled roads 350 miles up to March 1908. The principal metalled roads are—

	Miles.
1. Bāripadā-Balasore road	... 33
2. Bāripadā-Bahaldā road	... 60
3. Bistā-Karanjā road	... 43
4. Bāripadā-Nayābasan road	... 24

The other unmetalled roads are principally feeders to the railway or the main roads. There are no navigable rivers in the State and except for timbers floated down the Burābalang river during the rainy season the river-borne traffic is nil. There is an Imperial sub-post office at Bāripadā, the headquarters of the

State, and branch post offices at Bahaldā, Karanjā and Bisai, and there are letter-boxes in important villages.

The special features of the land revenue system of the State are the village *padhāns* or headmen and the *pargana sardārs*. The land revenue of a village is collected by its *padhān* who is responsible for its payment in proper time to the *sardār*, who is again responsible to the State for the payment of the revenue of his *pargana*. These functionaries receive 10 per cent. of the village and *pargana* land revenue respectively as commission and pay the remainder of the revenue to the State. Thus 20 per cent. of the revenue is paid as collection charges and the balance 80 per cent. comes to the State. In the subdivision of Bāmanghātī the *padhāns* used to pay the revenue direct into the treasury without the intervention of the *sardārs* and were liable to make good any balance which remained in arrears. This system was introduced by Dr. Haye, the Deputy Commissioner of Singhbhūm, who held charge of the subdivision for a number of years up to 1878, as it was found that the *sardārs* in Bāmanghātī, who are mostly Santāls, either failed to pay the revenue in proper time or misappropriated it if collected. In the last settlement, however, which was completed in 1906, some of the intelligent *sardārs* have been invested with the power to make the collection in their *parganas* and others have been replaced by *Tahsildārs* who are paid by a monthly salary. With the exception of two or three *sardārs* of Bāmanghātī, the others have been deprived of police powers which they formerly exercised. In the Sadar and the Pānchpir subdivisions the collection is made in four *kists*, viz., the April-*kist*, 4 annas, the July-*kist*, 2 annas, the October-*kist*, 4 annas and the January-*kist*, 6 annas.

The land revenue of the State is liable to re-settlement and settlement operations are a permanent feature of the land revenue administration as *pargana* after *pargana* is taken up in regular rotation for settlement and not the whole of the State at once. The *parganas* which have been denuded of jungle, and where there is little room for extension of cultivation have been cadastrally surveyed and the term of settlement is fixed at 20 years; *parganas* where the cultivated area is small and there is room for reclamation of jungle lands are surveyed according to the native method and the term of settlement is fixed at 10 to 15 years. In the Mayurbhanj Tenancy Regulation provision is made for the record-of-rights and settlement of rents.

Excepting the *sarbarākhār* of Kaptipadā whose estate extends over an area of 200 square miles, there are no large

LAND
REVENUE
ADMINIS-
TRATION.

Land
revenue
system.

Land
tenures.

land owners in the State. The *lakhirāj* tenures are divided into the following classes:—(1) *debottar*, (2) *brahmottar*, (3) *datta mahatrān*, and *datta pānpik*, (4) *bābūān jāgirs* and (5) *paikān* and other *jāgirs* or service tenures. The *debottar* lands are rent-free lands given to the Hindu deities whose number in the State is very large and include large *maths* presided over by ascetic *Mahants*. The *brahmottar* are grants made to Brāhmanas, and include *sāsans* or *brahmottar* villages divided into a number of holdings and allotted to Brāhmanas. These holdings are never escheated to the State: in the event of the *lakhirājdar* dying intestate, his holding is made over to another Brāhman. The number of *sāsans* and *bātikatās* or individual *brahmottar* grants is very extensive in the State. The *datta mahatrān* or *datta pānpik* grants are made to persons other than Brāhmanas. *Bābūān jāgirs* are *lakhirāj* grants made to the relations and others belonging to the Chief's caste. *Paikān jāgirs* are the service tenures granted to *paiks* or the ancient yeomanry of Orissa who formed a part of the military force of the Chief. The number of *lakhirāj* tenures in the State especially in the Sadar subdivision is very large. Most of these tenures are only partially rent-free, as 5 annas in the rupee is paid as *darbessī* and collection cess. The rent paying lands are known as *mal* or *hāsūlāt* lands. According to the provision of the Mayūrbhanj Tenancy Regulation twelve years' possession gives the occupier a right of occupancy over his holding and he cannot be dispossessed of it, except in the due course of the law.

The current land revenue demand in 1907-08 amounted to Rs. 6,04,554.

GENERAL
ADMINIS-
TRATION.

The relations of the State with the British Government are governed by the *sanad* of 1894, which was revised in 1908: the State pays a yearly tribute of Rs. 1,067-11-9, and is under the rules liable to pay *nazārāna* on succession.

For administrative purposes the Mayūrbhanj State is divided into three subdivisions, viz.—(1) the Sadar subdivision, (2) the Bāmanghātī subdivision and (3) the Pānchpīr subdivision. A Council has been established since the year 1892 with the Chief of the State as President and the *Diwān*, the State Judge, the Superintendent of Police, the State Engineer and two non-official gentlemen as members. All legislative measures are passed by the Council, and the Budget is discussed in Council. The Chief with the *Diwān* or any other member of Council whom the Chief may nominate form the Judicial Committee which hears appeals against the orders of all State courts according to the provisions of

the law of the State. The *Diwan* is the head of the Revenue Department including the settlement, agriculture, the zamindari and the Registration Departments. Under him is the Collector and a staff of Deputy Collectors and the Subdivisional Officers in their capacity as Deputy Collectors. The State Judge is the head of the judicial side of the administration, and has under him all the Magistrates, Munsiffs and Sub-Judge and the Subdivisional Officers in their capacity as Deputy Magistrates. In the subdivisions of Bāmanghāti and Pānchpir, the Subdivisional Officers exercise both judicial and executive functions. The Superintendent of Police and the State Engineer are in charge of their respective departments, and deal direct with the Chief. The Chief Medical Officer, the Superintendent of Education and all other departments deal direct with the Chief, and are immediately subordinate to him.

The receipts and expenditure, excluding debts and deposits, for **Finances.** the year 1907-08 amounted to Rs. 12,14,895 and Rs. 12,09,592, respectively. The State has a reserve fund to meet emergencies of Rs. 11,67,700 invested in Government securities.

The forests of Mayūrbhanj State are distributed over the **Forest.** central group of hill ranges and the plains sloping to the east and west of those hills.

In this State the Forest Act is in force and the forests of the State are classified as reserved and protected. The area of the reserved forests is 1,054 square miles and that of the protected forests 741 square miles. To the former class belong the compact forests on the hills, and on a part of the plains, whereas the latter class is scattered all over the east of the plains area of the State and honey-combed with villages. A little over one-third of the area of reserved forests contains mature *sal* in fair proportion and the remaining area contains poles in different stages of growth, intermixed with stray trees of full size here and there. The protected forests are composed mainly of *sal* poles.

In former days the forests were not under systematic management. Timber contractors confined their fellings to the plain forests in the vicinity of Bāripadā and exhausted them leaving only poles. In 1894 action towards the systematic management of the extensive forests was taken. In the same year the services of Mr. O. L. Hatts of the Imperial Forest Service were lent to the State by Government. He drew up an exhaustive report of the forests of the State and prepared a preliminary working plan for a small portion of it, viz., for about 88 square miles. Thereafter a well organised Forest Department has been gradually formed to manage and control all forest matters on the

model of forest administration prevailing in British districts. The cost of maintaining the Department which has been placed under a trained Forest Officer with an adequate staff, some of which are recruited from the Imperial Forest College, Dehra-Dun, is at present nearly Rs. 54,000 a year.

The present revenue from the sale of timber is Rs. 1,00,000 to Rs. 1,20,000.

The ryots of the State pay a fuel cess and in return they are allowed to remove dry fire wood from unreserved trees. In Bāmanghāti subdivision the ryots pay, besides the fuel cess, a special cess for which each cess payer is permitted to remove 2 *sagar* loads of bamboo and 10 dry *sāl* posts of 2 feet in girth annually. Concession has also been granted to each ryot to get free of charge trees of the unreserved species for house building and agriculture implements. They are also allowed the privilege of grazing their cattle free all over the protected forests, but in the reserved forests free pasturage is permitted only to adjacent villages within a radius of 2 miles. All ryots are also permitted to remove for their own consumption edible fruits, roots, bulbous tubers, etc.

Besides *sāl* the following principal timber trees grow in these forests:—*piāsāl* (*Pterocarpus marsupium*), *sissū* (*Dilbergia Sissoo*), *karam* (*Adina cordifolia*), *bandhan* (*Dupomia Dalbergioides*), *gamhārī* (*Gmelina arborea*), *kendu* (*Diospyros melanoxylon*), *mahnā* (*Bassia latifolia*), *āsan* (*Terminalia tomentosa*). Among other common trees found in the forests of the State are mango (*Mangifera indica*), *jām* (*Eugenia Jambolana*), *chār* (*Buchanania latifolia*), *kasāphal* (*Terminalia chebula*), *kuchilā* (*Strychnos Nux-vomica*), *bāharā* (*Terminalia bel-rica*), *semul* (*Bombax malabaricum*), *kusum* (*Schleichera trijuga*), *banyan* (*Ficus indica*), *pipal* (*Ficus religiosa*), *dhao* (*Azadirachta latifolia*), *arjun* (*Terminalia arjuna*), *aonlā* (*Phyllanthus emblica*), *champā* (*Michelia champaca*), *koine* (*Stephegyne parvifolia*), *mānkarkendu* (*Diospyros embryoperis*), *siris* (*Albizia lebeck*) and *rohini* (*Somida fabrifuga*). Among minor forest products are lac and tusser cocoon which are reared by the people of the State. Tusser cocoons are reared on *āsan* trees and lac on *kusum* trees. The ryots are permitted to rear lac on trees free of charge, and a duty of Rs. 2-8 per maund is levied from dealers. The revenue from these two sources to the State ranges between Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 30,000.

Prior to the systematic organisation of the Forest Department, i.e., during the years 1884-1894, the annual revenue from forests never exceeded Rs. 30,000, but at present it is nearly Rs. 2,50,000 a year.

In the Mayūrbhanj State there is a regular excise staff and the Excise. Excise Department is in immediate charge of a Deputy Collector designated as the Excise Officer, under the control of the *Diwan* of the State.

The chief sources of excise revenue are opium, *ganja*, country liquor, imported liquor, *bhang*, *tari*, *handia* and *madat*. There are five methods of taxation, viz. :—(1) Retail license fees, (2) duty on actual quantity of article passing into consumption, (3) distillery fee, (4) license fees for preparation and sale of *handia* at godowns and (5) license fees for sale of home brewed *handia* at *hāls*.

The supply of opium is obtained from the Balasore Treasury ^{Opium.} and the *pattādars* (licensed vendors) get their supply from the State Treasury. *Ganja* and *bhang* are imported from Calcutta or Nowagāon under a pass granted by the State and countersigned by the Collector of Balasore. ^{*Ganja* and *bhang*.} Country liquor is manufactured by the distillery system in the Sedar subdivision and the outstill system of brewing is prevalent in the other two subdivisions. ^{Liquor.} The distillery, opened at Bāripadā, is supervised by the Distillery Superintendent under the control of the Excise Officer. Imported liquor is sold in a shop at Bāripadā. The home manufacture of *madat* has been made penal to put a check upon the steady ^{*Madat*,} increase of opium smoking and nobody can smoke it except in a licensed den. The result has been a decrease in the number of *madat* smokers. During the four years 1904-05 to 1907-08 the average annual excise revenue and expenditure were Rs. 45,663 and Rs. 4,551 respectively; both the items are increasing year by year, the revenue and the expenditure during the year 1907-08 being Rs. 63,130 and Rs. 8,541 respectively.

The number of civil suits instituted during the year 1907-08 ^{Civil} was 2,112. ^{Justice.}

In the year 1907-08, 1,864 cognizable cases were reported to the police, of which 240 were held to be false. ^{Crime.} Convictions were obtained in 530 cases, or 58·05 per cent. of the true cases sent up for trial, in which 1,691 persons were tried and 820 or 48·4 per cent. were convicted.

Total strength of the police force is 332, consisting of 59 ^{Police.} officers and 273 men: there are 25 police stations and outposts. Proportion of regular policemen to the square mile is 1 to 12·7 square mil-s, and to population is 1 to 1,838·5 persons. The annual cost of maintenance of the force is Rs. 15·7·6 per square mile and anna 1·8 per head of the total population.

Village
police.
*Chauki-
dārs* and
*chauki-
dārī*
system.

There are 1,231 *chaukidārs* in the whole State, out of whom 638 are in Mayūrbhanj proper (527 were appointed under Act VI of 1870 and 111 under Regulation XX of 1817), 401 in the Bāmanghāti subdivision and 182 in the Pānchpīr subdivision appointed under Regulation XX of 1817. Compared with the area and population there is one village watchman to 3·47 square miles of the area and one to every 499 persons of the population. Cost of maintenance of the *chaukidārī* force is Rs. 6-9-4 per square mile of the area and 8 pies per head of the population.

Jails.

There is one main jail in the Sadar subdivision and two sub-jails in the Bāmanghāti and the Pānchpīr subdivisions. The jail staff consists of a Superintendent of jails, two Superintendents of the two sub-jails, 1 Jailor, 1 Assistant Jailor and 24 warders. The Subdivisional Officers of the two subdivisions are in charge of the sub-jails and are designated Superintendents of sub-jails. The Hospital Assistants of the two Subdivisional dispensaries exercise the functions of jailor in the sub-jails. The total jail population in all the jails in the State was 779 in the year 1907-08. The daily average number of prisoners was 128. The proportion of average daily jail population to entire male population is 1 to 2,369. The proportion of deaths to jail population is 1 to 153·1, and the average cost of maintenance per prisoner was Rs. 4-11 per month per head. The jail manufactures are generally rope-making, cloth-weaving and oil-pressing, etc. The total receipt was Rs. 1,983-4-3. The total charge was Rs. 1,470-15. The average earning per manufacturing prisoner was Rs. 2-8.

Public
Works
Depart-
ment.

The Public Works Department of the State is in charge of the State Engineer, being assisted by a subordinate staff. In 1907-08 the State spent Rs. 2,04,876 on account of public works.

LOCAL
SELF-
GOVERN-
MENT.

The Bāripadū Municipality was established in 1905 with an area of 2 square miles: the number of rate-payers is 570. The Officers are 1 Chairman, 1 Vice-Chairman, besides 15 Commissioners, appointed by the Chief, of whom six are State officials and nine are non-officials, and the various classes of the community are adequately represented. The town is divided into six wards. The sources of revenue are latrine tax, registration fees of carts, revenue from ferries, pounds and markets and a State grant. The receipts and expenditure for 1907-08 were Rs. 10,870-12-2 and Rs. 7,587-3-9, respectively. The population in 1901 was 5,617, but has considerably increased since then.

The water-supply of the town is drawn from three rivers, wells and two big *bāndās* on its northern side and a large tank

called the jail tank on the eastern side of the town which has been reserved for drinking purposes.

The conservancy establishment consist of 17 *mehtars* Conservancy. in the scavenging and road cleaning branch and of 31 sweepers in the latrine cleansing section, with one Inspector, one *jamādār* and one peon to supervise their works. The street sweepings and garbage are removed by refuse carts to distant corners of the town and reduced to ashes. The night-soil is deposited in regular trenching grounds at a distance of $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the town.

The Bāripada High English school: the total number of EDUCA- TION. Secondary schools. pupils on the rolls in 1899-00 was 112 and in 1907-08 was 271. Average daily attendance in 1899-00 was 53, and in 1907-08 it was 203. The cost of tuition per boy in 1907-08 was Rs. 19, of which the whole was paid by the State. Out of 271 pupils on the rolls, 258 were Hindus, six Muhammadans, six native Christians and one aborigine.

The number of Middle English schools in the State was 5. They registered 409 pupils at the end of the year 1907-08, and 251 in 1899-00. The average daily attendance was 232 in the year 1899-00 and 292 in the year 1907-08. The cost of educating each such pupil was Rs. 10-4. There is no Middle Vernacular school in the State.

The number of Upper Primary and Lower Primary Primary schools. schools for boys in the State during the year 1907-08 was 362. The total number of pupils attending these schools was 7,299, and the average cost of educating a pupil in any of these schools was Rs. 3.

The total number of girls' schools in the whole State was 5. Female education. The total number of girls attending was 124 in the year 1907-08. The number of girls attending boys' schools was 225. The average daily attendance was 81. The cost of tuition of each girl was Rs. 8-7 in 1907-08. Slow but steady progress is being made in female education.

A two years' course is followed, viz., 1st year's course—elementary drawing and carpentry; 2nd year's course—advanced instruction in carpentry, blacksmithy and fitter's works. Besides there are 2 Sanskrit *cols* and one *guru-training* and 9 private schools.

The expenditure from the State funds on account of education in all branches in 1907-08 was Rs. 35,541-8-4, or 2-9 per cent. of the gross revenue of the State. It is more by 0-3 per cent. than what it was in 1899-00.

CHAPTER XV.

NARSINGHPUR STATE.

PHYSICAL ASPECTS. THE State of Narsinghpur lies between 20° 23' and 20° 37' N. and 84° 58' and 85° 17' E., with an area of 199 square miles. It is bounded on the north by a range of forest-clad hills, which separate it from Angul district and Hindol State; on the east by the Barāmbā State; on the south and south-west by the Mahānadi river which divides it from the Khandparā and Daspallā States; and on the west by Daspallā and Angul district. The State is for the most part open and cultivated country with a few small ranges and isolated hills, except to the north where a range of fine hills separates it from the Hindol State. This northern range contains a large quantity of *sal* (*Shorea robusta*) trees, which here attain to a considerable dimension. The climate, on the small plateau about 1,500 feet high on the crest of this range, is a welcome change in the hot season from the heated plains of the country below. The temperature in the hot season is high and the tract of country in the neighbourhood of the headquarters is very hot. The average rainfall for the six years—from 1902-03 to 1907-08—was 51·24 inches. The climate is healthy. The tract bordering along the Mahānadi is subject to frequent inundations, which leave deposits of sand, doing serious damage to the cultivation. The headquarters of the State are at Narsinghpur.

HISTORY. The State is alleged to have been founded by one Dharma Singh, about the year 1292 A.D. The State is said to have originally been in the possession of two Khonds, Narsingha and Para, from whom the name of this tract of country was taken. The area of the State has been from time to time curtailed of many portions by the Chiefs of Hindol, Barāmbā and Daspallā. None of the Chiefs ever obtained any *farmān* from the Mughals or Marāthās. The title "Mānsingh Hari Chandan Mahāpātra," was obtained by the fifteenth Chief, Dayānidhi Mānsingh Hari Chandan Mahāpātra, from the Mahārājā of Puri, to whom the State was subject. The emblem of the State is a scorpion.

THE PEOPLE. The population increased from 33,849 in 1891 to 39,613 in 1901, the density being 199 persons to the square mile. It

contains 198 villages, the most important of which is Kānpur. Of the total population all but 158 are Hindus. The most numerous castes are Chasās (6,000) and Pāns (4,000). The population is classified as follows:—Hindus—males, 19,481, females, 19,974, total of Hindus, 39,455, or 99·6 per cent. of the population of the State; proportion of males in total Hindus, 49·3 per cent. Musalmāns—males, 89, females, 66, total of Musalmāns 155 or 0·3 per cent. of the population; proportion of males in total Musalmāns 57·4 per cent.; Christians—3. Proportion of males in total population, 49·4 per cent. Number of literate persons in the State is 3,309 or 8·4 per cent. of the total population. Averages—villages per square mile, 0·99; persons per village, 200; houses per square mile, 42; houses per village, 42·3; persons per house, 4·7. According to the census of 1901, out of the 198 villages in the State there were 179 with less than five hundred, 17 with from five hundred to a thousand, and 2 with from one to two thousand inhabitants. The people are prosperous, more advanced and their standard of living is generally higher than in the neighbouring States.

The country is healthy and the people do not suffer to any exceptional degree from fever: epidemics of cholera are, however, not uncommon. There is a dispensary, with an indoor ward, at the headquarters in charge of a Civil Hospital Assistant: the number of indoor and outdoor patients treated in 1907-08 was 46 and 5,627 respectively: there is a veterinary department attached to the dispensary and in the year 1907-08, 78 animals were treated. Vaccination is in charge of a special Civil Hospital Assistant, who also looks after village sanitation and gives medical relief in the interior where 312 patients were treated in the year 1907-08: the vaccinators employed are licensed local men, trained in the vaccination class of the Medical School at Cuttack; in 1907-08 the number of primary vaccinations was 1,352 and of re-vaccinations 1,871. Considerable progress has of late been made in overcoming the prejudices of the people against vaccination: during the period from 1893 to 1902 the average annual number of vaccinations was 464 and re-vaccination was almost unknown.

The soil is fertile and the villages are many of them prosperous with well cultivated lands: the riparian villages are liable to inundation and deposits of sands and there are no embankments to resist the powerful floods of the Mahānadi. The principal crop is rice and in ordinary years there is an ample surplus stock for export: good crops of castor-oil, arhar, sugarcane and sweet potatoes are raised.

**RENTS,
WAGES
AND
PRICES.**

The average rate for ordinary first, second and third class rice lands per acre is Rs. 3-2-5, Rs. 2-13-5, and Rs. 2-8-4, respectively, and for uplands Re. 0-9-0. Wages during the ten years from 1893 to 1902 showed a slight tendency to fall, the average daily wage during this period was as follows:—Superior mason, $7\frac{1}{2}$ annas, common mason, 4 annas; superior carpenter, $7\frac{1}{2}$ annas, common carpenter, $3\frac{1}{2}$ annas; cooly, 2 annas; superior blacksmith, $5\frac{1}{2}$ annas, and common blacksmith $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas.

The run of prices during the same period has varied with the harvests, but there has been no noticeable tendency to a rise in prices: the average price during the period 1893 to 1902 of wheat, rice, gram and salt has been $12\frac{1}{2}$ seers, 26 seers, $20\frac{1}{2}$ seers and $10\frac{1}{2}$ seers, respectively.

**OCCUPA-
TIONS,
MANUFAC-
TURES AND
TRADE**

There are no occupations, manufactures or trade in the State calling for special notice. Lac and cocoons are cultivated as usual throughout the State. A considerable trade, however, is carried on by exporting bamboos to Cuttack and a small amount of timber is also removed. The trade is mostly in grain, cotton, oil-seeds and molasses. The principal imported articles are spices, salt, cloth, piece-goods and kerosene oil.

**MEANS OF
COMMUNI-
CATION.**

The State is fortunate in its line of communication: the Mahanadi forms its frontage to the south and affords ready means of transport almost throughout the year. There is a good road from the headquarters to Barāmbā and a fair road, which passes over the steep northern range of hills, to Angul and Hindol. There is a post office at the headquarters.

**LAND
REVENUE-
ADMINIS-
TRATION.**

The system of land revenue administration is the same as in other States of the group formerly known as the Tributary Mahāls of Orissa. The last settlement was made in 1898-99, when the State was under the Court of Wards. The land revenue demand is Rs. 37,983. The *sarbarāhkārs* are paid by cash commission and have no special service lands in the villages: steps have been taken to identify the old *sarbarāhkāri* service lands and assign them again to the village headmen: these lands in previous settlements were brought into the general assessment of the village.

**GENERAL
ADMINIS-
TRATION.**

The *sanad* of 1894, which was revised in 1908, lays down the relations between the State and the British Government. The State pays an annual tribute of Rs. 1,450 to the British Government. The State has been for some time under the direct administration of Government owing to the minority of the Chief, who has, however, recently been given charge of his State; he conducts the administration with the assistance of a trained

Finances. *Diwan*. The estimated annual income is about Rs. 66,000.

During the period of management precise rules for the Forests administration of the forests were drawn up and a regular Forest Department organised under a properly qualified Forester: a fuel cess at the rate of one anna per acre on cultivated lands has been introduced. In 1907-08 the forests yielded Rs. 7,031.

The excise arrangements are on the lines prevailing in British districts; the supply of opium and *ganja* is obtained from Government in the manner common to all the States of the group formerly known as the Tributary Mahals of Orissa. In 1907-08 the excise revenue amounted to Rs. 2,442.

Civil suits are of a petty character and in 1907-08 the number of civil suits instituted was 131 of which only 30 suits were for values exceeding Rs. 50.

The majority of the crime consists of petty theft and burglary and heinous crime is rare. The police force consists of one Sub-Inspector, 3 Head-Constables and 21 constables, the *chauki-dars* number 186 and have service land; they annually receive at harvest a sheaf of paddy (unhusked rice) from each cultivator, and occasional meals and they enjoy the right to dispose of the hides of dead cattle.

There is a jail with accommodation for 24 prisoners. The daily average population was 16.56 in 1907-08.

There is a Public Works Department in charge of a sub-overseer under the Public Works Supervisor employed for under administration: money is annually assigned for improvements of tanks and irrigation. The State spent Rs. 9,961, on account of public works in 1907-08.

The schools maintained by the State are one Middle Vernacular, two Upper Primary, 27 Lower Primary for boys and two Lower Primary for girls: there is also a Sanskrit *tal*. There is also one *guru*-training school. The number of pupils on the rolls in 1907-08 was 804, and the State expenditure on education was Rs. 1,998 and in addition there was the Government grant of Rs. 1,397. Education is backward, but more advanced than in the neighbouring States.

CHAPTER XVI.

NAYAGARH STATE.

PHYSICAL ASPECTS. THE Nayāgarh State is situated between 19° 53' and 20° 20' N., and 84° 48' and 85° 15' E., with an area of 588 square miles. It is bounded on the north by Khandparā State and Puri district; on the east by Ranpur State; on the south by Puri district; and on the west by Daspallā State and the Madras district of Ganjām. A splendid range of hills, varying from 2,000 to 2,500 feet in height, runs through the centre of the State. The south and south-eastern portions of the State are very hilly and incapable of tillage, but elsewhere there are wide-spread tracts of highly cultivated lands. A chain of hills rising abruptly surrounds the southern and eastern boundaries of the State in the form of a semi-circle. The hill ranges are at places alternated by small peaks but the chain is nowhere broken: on the lower slopes thick forests of bamboos are found. In the valleys there are rich forests of timber. *Sāl* (*Shorea robusta*), *piāsāl* (*Pterocarpus marsupium*) and *susu* (*Dalbergia Sissoo*) abound with *kendu* (*Diospyros melanoxylon*) and *gamhār* (*Gmelina arborea*). The silt from the hills is deposited annually with the setting in of the monsoon and furnishes rich material for the luxuriant growth of valuable trees. In the plain country the lands are all undulating and readily lend themselves to irrigation. The average rainfall for the six years from 1902-03 to 1907-08, was 56·47 inches. The State is traversed by numerous streams taking their rise in the hill tracts: these streams eventually discharge into the Kusumi which flows from west to east and thence to the north, meeting the Mahānadi in the Khandparā State. The streams are all fordable throughout the year except immediately after a heavy downpour when they come into sudden spate but fall again in the brief space of an hour or two. There are numerous natural springs in the northern part of the State, which protect this area from scarcity. The headquarters of the State are at Nayāgarh.

HISTORY. According to tradition the founder of the family was one Sūryamani Singh from Rewah in the Central Provinces. He established a *garh* (fort) at a place called Gunānati in Nayāgarh.

He was elected by the people of the country as their Chief and received from them in marriage a daughter of a Mali, i.e., a gardener, who was the priest of the village goddess. On her death he married again, a Kshattriya bride, whose descendants have since held the *gadi* of the two States of Nayāgarh and Khandparā. Two or three generations afterwards the limits of the State were extended from Gunānati to the present capital of Nayāgarh. The fourth Chief established a *garh* (fort) at Nayāgarh, and still further extended his dominions. The twelfth Chief extended his boundaries by waging war with the Chiefs of Baud, Ranpur, Bānpur and Gumsur. He gave Nayāgarh to his eldest son, Khandparā to his second son, Lakshmiprasād to his third son: the third son dying heirless, Lakshmiprasād was again included in Nayāgarh, and the boundaries of Nayāgarh and Khandparā as then fixed have remained unchanged. The twenty-third Chief was the last of the lineal descendants of Sūryamani Singh. He held the *gadi* for 12 months, and was succeeded by Rāja Raghunāth Singh, a blood relation, who died without heirs in 1897, and on his death-bed authorized his younger Rani to adopt a son. The present Chief was accordingly adopted from a family related by marriage. None of the Chiefs appear to have received any *farman* from the Mughals or Marāthās. Raghuji Bhonslā, Maharāja of Nāgpur, bestowed the gift of a flag on the Chief, and after the conquest of Orissa, the Chief, for the assistance rendered by him, received an elephant and a cannon. The emblem of the State is a tiger's head.

The total population of the State according to the census ^{THE} of 1901 is 140,779, or a density of 239 persons per square ^{PEOPLE.} mile. Hindus constitute 95·18 per cent., Animists 4·40 per cent., and Musalmāns 0·42 per cent., of the total population: there are 9 Christians. Proportion of males of all classes in total population is 49·58 per cent. Hindus—males, 66,341, females, 67,654, total 133,995; proportion of males in total Hindus, 49·51 per cent. Musalmān—males, 356, females, 229, total 585; proportion of males in total Musalmāns, 60·85 per cent. Animists—males, 3,094, females, 3,096, total 6,190. The number of persons able to read and write is 12,013 or 8·5 per cent of the total population. Averages—villages per square mile, 1·3; persons per village, 181·6; houses per square mile, 49·3; houses per village, 37·4; persons per square mile, 239; persons per house, 4·9. The State contains 775 villages which are classified as follows:—734 villages with less than five hundred inhabitants, 32 with from five hundred to one thousand inhabitants, 7 with from

sone thousand to two thousand inhabitants and 2 with two thousand to five thousand inhabitants. The people may be divided into the following general groups according to their occupations:— (1) Agricultural (85,447), including Chasās, Sudhas, Golās, Telingās, Rājus, Bauris, Khadāls, and Pāns. They represent 60·7 per cent. of the total population. (2) Religious, Literary and Titular including Brāhmans, Ksuattriyas, Karans, Khandaits, Rājputs, Mālis and Vaishnavas. They represent 12 per cent. of the total population. (3) Traders (14,077), including Vaisya, Guriās, Kumutis, Telis, Sunris (or Sundis), Pātrās, Thorīās, Gandha Baniks and Baniyās. They form 10 per cent. of the total population. (4) Village servants (8,446), including Bhandāris, Kāmārs, Kumhārs and Dhobās. They constitute 6 per cent. of the total population. (5) General artisans (4,223), including Kānsāris, Tāntis, Kharurās and Khairās. They constitute 3 per cent. of the total population. (6) Miscellaneous (11,685) about 9 per cent. of the population follow minor occupations. All the castes, except the Brāhmans, Karans, Khandaits and Kshattriyas, have their respective caste committees which sit once or twice a year and decide all social and religious questions. The penalties inflicted by the committees are in the shape of fines, or corporal punishment. Widow-marriage obtains among all castes except the Brāhmans, Karans and Kshattriyas. The younger brother, if any, of a deceased husband has preference over others for the re-marriage of the widow, and disparity of age is no bar to such re-marriage. A Khond widow will not however re-marry if she has got a son. The Kumutis and Telingās will only marry the daughters of their maternal uncles, failing which the latter's permission to any other marriage relationship has to be purchased at considerable cost.

The Khonds worship their village goddesses known as Sulīās Brāhmandei, Sitalā and Tarkei. In the event of a villager being killed by a tiger or a leopard, the idol is, however, thrown away and replaced by another and the priest also is dismissed.

The people are by character exceedingly given over to litigation and intrigue. The condition of the people is, on the whole, good. The soil is very fertile, and yields to the cultivator a good income annually. The people are well off and gold earrings and necklaces are worn by many.

**PUBLIC
HEALTH.**

The State is hilly and the climate dry. The headquarters Nayāgarh, are, however, badly situated in a hollow, closely surrounded by hills and are in consequence very malarious. The rest of the State is more salubrious, but malaria is more or less universal. The people are ignorant of the elementary principles of

sanitation. Houses are built with no arrangements for ventilation. The tank which provides drinking water is indifferently used for all purposes. Fever with enlargement of spleen, dysentery, and diarrhoea are the most common form of disease. Diseases of the lungs very seldom occur. Cholera breaks out in an epidemic form once in 3 or 4 years. Small-pox has been successfully combated by the introduction of vaccination. The hot months are the healthiest part of the year. With the setting in of the rains people suffer from dysentery and malaria. There are two dispensaries in the State with indoor accommodation, one at the headquarters and the other at Odgaon. In 1907-08 the number of patients treated was 18,637: this figure includes 24 indoor patients treated during the year. Vaccination is now general, and the practice of revaccination was recently successfully instituted: the total number of primary vaccinations and revaccinations was 5,516 and 5,148 respectively in the year 1907-08.

The total area under cultivation is 123,402 acres, which is ^{AGRICUL-} about $\frac{1}{3}$ of the total area of the State. The area under ^{TURE.} cultivation is very much in excess of the actual requirements of the population. There is no likelihood of the pressure of the population being felt on agriculture in the near future. Nearly half the produce of the paddy (unhusked rice), if not more, is available for export in an ordinary year. Rice occupies 68 per cent. of the total cultivated area, and the soil is admirably suited for its cultivation. Of the miscellaneous crops *mūga*, gram, sugarcane, cotton and *kulthi* are the most important. *Mūga* is extensively sown on rice lands if there is a good rain in December. Sugarcane is mostly grown on lands in the immediate vicinity of village sites. Cotton is grown on high lands, but of poor quality. *Kulthi* is extensively grown by the Khonds and is one of their staple food stuffs. During recent years the intelligent tenants have taken to the cultivation of jute, wheat, potato, *burli* cotton and ground nut: these crops promise to have a future before them. The State experimental farm has been successful in introducing these new crops to the tenants. Of the oil-seeds, *rāshi* (sesamum) is the most important, and of the millets, *māndiā*, *suān*, and *kuhuri*. *Suān* (*sāwān*) and *kuhuri* are grown on high lands and do not require much labour. They ripen in the course of six weeks from the time of sowing and stand the tenants in good stead in years of scarcity. They are easily digestible in the form of cakes and are a good substitute for rice, and are sown in May and reaped in July.

Sugarcane is the most paying of all the crops grown in the State. The heavy initial outlay and the want of permanent

sources of irrigation stand in the way of extension of cultivation of this valuable crop. Cow-dung stored in open places exposed to the sun and rains is the principal manure used. It is used at the rate of 40 to 60 maunds per acre. Sixty per cent. of the population own plough-cattle. The cattle are small but sturdy, getting an abundance of fodder from the jungles and waste lands. Several irrigation works have been constructed by the State and a regular programme is being undertaken and rapidly pushed on.

**RENTS,
WAGES
AND
PRICES.**

Rents.

Prior to the recent settlement there were 45 rates of rent per acre ranging from Rs. 6-4 to 0-1-0. They were too numerous and unworkable, and were reduced to 9 in the recent settlement. The highest rate per acre is Rs. 3-2-0 and the lowest Re. 0-6-3. The rates have been applied according to the produce of the land. An acre of double-cropped land yielding on an average 36 to 40 maunds of rice per annum has been assessed at the highest rate (Rs. 3-2-0) while an acre of land yielding not more than 8 maunds of rice has been assessed at the lowest rate (Re. 0-6-3). The average class of land of which the annual produce of rice was 20 to 24 maunds has been assessed at the rate of Re. 1-9-0. The rates of rent for lands growing miscellaneous crops only are three, viz., Re. 0-10-5, Re. 0-8-4 and Re. 0-6-3. The proportion which the rent of an acre of 1st class land bears to its gross produce is as 1 to 16, of the average class 1 to 21, and of the inferior class 1 to 26. The rents are light.

Wages.

There are five kinds of agricultural labourers:—(1) *Barsakia* (one who serves throughout the year). He gets from his employer Rs. 20 in cash, a coarse country cloth valued at 8 annas, and a loan of 4 maunds of unhusked rice and Rs. 2 free of interest. He is not fed by his employer. (2) *Chhamasia* (one who serves his employer on every alternate day). He receives Rs. 10 in cash, one cloth valued at 8 annas, a loan of 2 maunds of unhusked rice and one rupee free of interest, and 8 seers of unhusked rice per diem when the rice crop is reaped. (3) *Chharimasia* (one who serves his employer on every 3rd day). He receives Rs. 7 in cash, one napkin valued at 4 annas, and 8 seers of unhusked rice per diem when the rice crop is reaped. (4) *Tinimasia* (one who serves his employer on every 4th day). He receives Rs. 5 in cash, one napkin valued at 4 annas and 8 seers of unhusked rice on every day the paddy is reaped. (5) The daily labourer earns 2 annas per diem. The first two classes are the most numerous.

Although the price of rice, the principal agricultural produce, has risen considerably by a brisk export yielding a substantial

profit to the land-owners the wages of agricultural labour remain stationary. During the ten years from 1893 to 1902 wages for skilled labour have shown no tendency to rise and the daily wage has averaged as follows:—Superior mason, 8 annas; common mason and superior carpenter, 6 annas each; common carpenter and superior blacksmith, 4 annas each; common blacksmith, 3 annas. The reason is, that the supply of labour is much in excess of the demand, the labourers as a class remain contented with a subsistence allowance. The labouring class constitutes 22 per cent. of the total population.

The chief agricultural produce of the State is rice. The **Prices.** average price of unhusked rice during the decade (1887-1896) was 51 seers per rupee but rose to 36 seers during the last decade (1897-1906). During the ten years from 1893 to 1902 the average price of wheat, rice and gram has been 10½ seers, 19½ seers, and 15½ seers respectively. The year in which the Bengal-Nagpur Railway was opened in Orissa marks an epoch in the economical history of the State. A brisk export trade of rice with different parts of India dawned upon the State and the prices of rice have risen 70 per cent. in one decade. The rise of prices of the principal produce has contributed materially to the prosperity of the State by ensuring handsome profits to the tenants and increasing the value of the land.

The religious and literary classes consisting of Brāhmins, **OCCUPA-** Karans and Kshattriyas, who constitute 12 per cent. of the total **TIONS,** population, do not as a rule turn their attention to agriculture and **MANU-** trade. Agriculture is the chief occupation of 60 per cent. of the **FACTURES** total population, who have little or no secondary occupation to **AND** supplement their income from the land. The agricultural classes **TRADE.** are all hardworking and show signs of increased prosperity. They **OCCUPA-** are, however, very conservative and do not readily welcome any **tions.** departure from their old system of cultivation. Ten per cent. of the population follow trade. Only 2 per cent. of the population follow fishing as their occupation, and 6 per cent. is represented by washermen, potters, blacksmiths and menial servants.

The principal commodities of local manufacture are cotton **Manufac-** fabrics, tussar, brass and bell-metal utensils, saltpetre, and **tures** catechu. The Tantis who number 3,497 in the whole State and some of the Pans manufacture coarse cotton fabrics by hand-weaving. Only a very small number of Tantis turn out tussar cloth. The cotton fabrics are very much in demand in the local markets specially by the low-caste people. The tussar cloths are exported to Puri and Outtack. Kānsāris and Kharurās who number 724 turn out brass and bell-metal

utensils. They are not of very fine polish, but still they command a large sale in the State. Khadāls manufacture saltpetre. The outturn is small and it is consumed in the State. Catechu is manufactured in the forest by the Khairās. Chains, buttons, sticks and statues of fine workmanship—all of ivory—are manufactured by a few families at the headquarters of the State. The ivory work has won admiration from all quarters.

Trade.

The principal commodities of export are: (1) rice, (2) timber, (3) cotton, (4) oil-seeds, (5) hide, (6) horns of deer and buffaloes, and (7) minor forest produce. Rice occupies the foremost place in the export trade of the State. Trade in timber is carried on by local men and some merchants from Cuttack. The *śāl* (*Shorea robusta*) of Nayāgarh is considered the best in Orissa. Cotton is exported chiefly to Ganjām in the Madras Presidency. It is mostly grown by Khonds in the western part of the State bordering on Ganjām. Hides are exported to Calcutta. Among minor forest produce are included *Nux vomica* and *gundi* (*Mallotus philippinensis*) dye. They are chiefly exported to the Ganjām district. The import trade consists of cotton piece-goods, salt, kerosene oil, iron and fancy goods. They command a very good market in the State.

MEANS OF COMMUNICATION.

There is no railway. There is a metalled road from the headquarters to Khurdā railway station on the East Coast Section of the Bengal-Nāgpur Railway. It is in good condition. Another metalled road ten miles in length to the Ranpur border is in course of construction. This road will connect with the line at Kāluparāghāt railway station. There are no navigable rivers in the State. There is an Imperial sub-post office at the headquarters of the State and the imperial post plies *via* Khurdā.

LAND REVENUE ADMINISTRATION.

The land revenue of the State rose from Rs. 43,673 to Rs. 74,937 in the last settlement. The revenue is realised by the *sarbarāhhkārs* of whom there are 885 in the State. They pay the revenue direct into the treasury. They receive ten per cent. commission or *malikānā* and enjoy *śāgir* (service) lands varying from 1 to 108 acres of land. The *sarbarāhhkārs* are held responsible for realisation of land revenue. There are four *kists*, viz., 15th November, 15th December, 15th January, and 15th February, and the revenue is paid in four equal instalments. If there are any defaulters the *sarbarāhhkārs* file a list of them after the *kist*, and steps are taken against them under the certificate procedure. The Superintendent of the State, the Assistant Superintendent and the *Kānungos* make periodical tours in the interior to check any illegal cesses or *abwābs* being realised by the *sarbarāhhkārs*. There is no road or public works cess on the land. Printed cheque receipts are granted for

the payment of rent, the counterfoils are kept by the *sarbarāhkar*; *siha* (daily receipts), and *wasil-taki* (rent-roll) are also kept by the *sarbarāhkar* and every precaution is taken to prevent the *sarbarāhkar* defrauding the ignorant tenants.

The relations between the State and the British Government are regulated by the provisions of the *sanad* of 1908, and the State pays a tribute of Rs. 5,525. The State is now under the administration of Government owing to the minority of the Chief. The administration of the State rests with the Superintendent who is guided by the instructions of the Political Agent; there is also an Assistant Superintendent. All important civil and criminal and rent cases are tried by the Superintendent, who is in immediate charge of the Public Works Department, Forest, Police, Jail, Dispensary, and Education. The Chief and the Assistant Superintendent help in the disposal of criminal, civil, rent and miscellaneous cases. GENERAL
ADMINIS-
TRATION.

In 1907-08 the income of the State was Rs. 1,40,473 and the expenditure Rs. 1,35,105: the State has been cleared of debt and the finances are on a sound footing. FINANCES.

The forest staff consists of one Ranger, one Forester, one Assistant Forester and 23 guards: the receipts under this head in 1907-08 amounted to Rs. 20,308. The excise revenue amounted to Rs. 9,503 in 1907-08. FORESTS.
Excise.

The number of civil suits for disposal during the year 1907-08 was 951, most of which were of a petty nature, 65 per cent. of the total number being for sums below Rs. 50 in value. CIVIL
justice.

The number of cases reported to the police in 1907-08 was 73, of which more than 50 per cent. were petty theft. CRIME.

The police staff consists of 1 Sub-Inspector, 10 Head-Constables, 10 writer-constables, and 35 men. There is besides a staff of reserve police officers consisting of one *Jamadar* (Head-Constable) and 20 men. POLICE.

There is a good masonry jail recently constructed on modern and sanitary lines affording accommodation for 46 prisoners. In 1907-08 the average daily population was 24.4. For the Public Works Department there is a Sub-Overseer, the work being under the control of a Joint Supervisor of the Wards States: during the year 1907-08 Rs. 45,668 was spent on public works. PUBLIC
WORKS
Department.

There are one Middle English, three Upper Primary, two Model Lower Primary schools for aborigines only, maintained entirely from State funds. Besides the above there are 71 Lower Primary schools which receive annual aid from the State funds. There is one separate girls' school at headquarters and one in the mufassil. There is an Ayurvedic institution and a *guru* EDUCATION.

training school. The total number of boys and girls attending all the schools in 1907-08 was 1,427 and 79 respectively : thus 2·04 per cent. of the total male population attended the schools in 1907-08. Education is backward, but is making steady progress, and the intelligent section of the population are anxious to give a high English education to their boys. The total annual expenditure in 1907-08 on education was Rs. 9,369. In 1907-08 the State received a grant of Rs. 2,113 from Government for primary education.

CHAPTER XVII

NILGIRI STATE.

THE State of Nilgiri lies between $21^{\circ} 17'$ and $21^{\circ} 37' N.$, and $86^{\circ} 25'$ and $86^{\circ} 50' E.$, with an area of 278 square miles. It is bounded on the north and west by the State of Mayŭrbhanj, and on the east and south by Balasore district. One-third of the area is taken up by hills, some of which contain valuable timber. There is much land awaiting reclamation. Valuable quarries of black stone are found and there are also good granite quarries in the hills close to Nilgiri, the headquarters of the State. The climate is hot in the summer, but tempered by breezes from the sea: the average rainfall for the six years from 1902-03 to 1907-08 was 64·38 inches. The headquarters of the State are at Nilgiri, 13 miles from the Balasore railway station on the Bengal-Nāgpur line and five miles from the Trunk Road from Calcutta to Madras. Nilgiri contains the residence of the Chief, a fine building picturesquely situated at the foot of a fine range of hills: the public buildings consist of a dispensary with indoor accommodation, a jail, courts and public offices, a Middle English school, a commodious circuit-house and combined post and telegraph office.

As regards the origin of the Nilgiri Rāj family it is alleged that the State was founded in 1125 A.D., by two brothers who came from Chota Nāgpur. During the time of the Mughals, the tribute of the State having fallen into arrear, *kīḍa* Mangalpurpatnā and Talmundā were made into separate *tahsils*, and the area of the State was thus considerably reduced. In the time of the Marāthās the zamīndārs of *parganas* Mukharā, Khejuri, Armālā, Kudāi, and Bānchās, in the Balasore district managed to get some of the eastern villages of the State included in their zamīndāris. The Rājā of Mayŭrbhanj, too, is said to have taken possession of some of the villages on the north-west boundary, and included them in his State. The thirteenth Chief Nārāyan Basant Birāt Bhujang Māndhātā received the title of Hari-chandan from the Mahārājā of Orissa, for having ably defended the celebrated goddess of the State (Udarehandi) and her temple, which had been built by the Mahārājā—from the inroads of Kalāpahār. The fourteenth Chief was honoured in 1596 A.D. by

the Mughal Emperor Akbar Shāh for having assisted his Wazir, Mān Singh, during the attack on the Pathāns on the bank of the Subarnarekhā river, and for having humbled the pride of the Athkhunta Bhuiyās in Nilgiri.

The fifteenth Chief obtained in 1611 A.D. the title of Mardarāj for the assistance he rendered to the Mughals against the Pathāns on the bank of the Subarnarekhā. The thirtieth Chief received from the Marāthās the title of Fateh Singh Bahādur for having assisted Motirām, the Marāthā *Fauzdār* at Balasore, in his war against the Jāmkundā Bhuiyās. The present Chief, a brother of the Chief of Mayūrbhanj, obtained the *gadi* by adoption. The Chief is a Kshattriya. The emblem of the State is the flower *karallā*.

**THE
PEOPLE.**

The population increased from 56,198 in 1891 to 66,460 in 1901; it is contained in 466 villages, and the density is 239 persons to the square mile. The most important village is Nilgiri. Hindus number 58,896, Musalmāns, 101, Christians, 161, and Animists, 7,302. The most numerous castes are Khandaits (15,000), Bhumijes (6,000), Brāhmans (5,000) and Gauras and Hos (4,000 each). A small Christian community belonging to the American Free Baptist Mission is established at Mitrapur, 11 miles west of Balasore town. The Mission was started in 1855: the Christian community at Mitrapur numbers 80: an Upper Primary school is maintained and is attended by Christians, Pāns and Santals and is open to all without distinction. The population is classified as follows:—Hindus—males, 29,479, females, 29,417, total 58,896 or 88·6 per cent. of the population of the State; proportion of males in total Hindus 34·7 per cent. Musalmāns—males, 80, females, 21, total 101 or 0·15 per cent. of the population. Animists—males, 3,581, females, 3,721, total 7,302 or 10·98 per cent. of the population. The number of persons able to read and write is 3,660 or 5·5 per cent. of the population. The average number of villages per square mile is 1·6; persons per village, 142; houses per village, 28·6; houses per square mile, 47; persons per house, 49. Of the 466 villages in the State there are 455 with less than five hundred, 10 with from five hundred to a thousand, and one with from one to two thousand inhabitants. The people are well off for the most part and fairly advanced, at any rate in the southern and eastern parts of the State owing to their close proximity to Balasore and the line of rail.

**PUBLIC
HEALTH.**

There is a good dispensary with indoor ward attached at the headquarters: a medical officer with the qualifications of an Assistant Surgeon is in charge assisted by a Civil Hospital Assistant,

who also looks after vaccination work, and there is also a qualified female Civil Hospital Assistant for female patients. The total number of patients treated during the year 1907-08 was 7,004. The eastern and southern areas of the State are not unhealthy, but fever as usual is prevalent in the hill and forest areas. The State suffers from time to time from severe epidemics of cholera. Vaccination is carried on by licensed vaccinators, but is not popular: it has however recently made progress and in 1907-08 revaccination was successfully undertaken. In 1907-08 the number of primary vaccinations was 2,228 and that of revaccinations, 597.

The soil is fertile and in the open country to the south and east the lands are well cultivated and abundant rice crops are raised. The villages in this area are prosperous and tanks for irrigation are common: no special attempts to introduce better varieties of seed or new crops have been made by the State.

The average rent per acre of first, second and third class rice lands is Rs. 2-0-8, Re. 1-9-0 and Re. 1-2-9 respectively and of up-lands, Re. 1-0-8. During the period from 1893 to 1902 there has been a decided rise in wages by nearly 50 per cent. in the case of skilled labour with a somewhat smaller rise for unskilled labour: the average daily wage during that period has been as follows: superior mason, 6½ annas, common mason, 4 annas; superior carpenter, 6 annas, common carpenter, 4 annas; cooly, 2 annas; superior blacksmith, 4½ annas, and common blacksmith, 3½ annas. The rate of wages is now likely to increase further with the opening of the granite quarries. During the same period the prices of rice, gram and salt have remained practically stationary and have averaged 18½ seers, 11½ seers and 10½ seers respectively.

Of the total population more than half, i.e., 55.5 per cent live by agriculture: 15.97 per cent. follow industrial pursuits and 10.4 per cent., professions: 9.9 per cent. are engaged in trade. From the quarries of blackstone found in this State a considerable quantity of stone cups, bowls and platters are manufactured and exported. The granite quarries of the State are now being worked and it is intended to export the stone to Calcutta for road metal: the quarries are connected with the line of rail at Balasore by a tramway. The principal imported articles are spices, mill-made goods, kerosene oil, salt, cotton yarn, iron and brasswares, and the principal exported articles are paddy, rice, soapstone, stoneware, tusser cocoons, myrobalan, timber, fuel, horns and hides.

There is a good road from the headquarters linking up with the Madras Grand Trunk Road: by this route Balasore is

AGRICUL-
TURE.

RENTS,
WAGES
AND
PRICES.

OCCUPA-
TIONS,
MANUFAC-
TURES
AND
TRADE.

MEANS OF
COMMUNI-
CATION.

13 miles distant from the headquarters: a fair surface road runs up to the border of Kaptipada, an estate in Mayurbhanj with a rest-house close to the border: there is also a surface road to Mitrapur: there is a good bungalow for travellers at the headquarters. The headquarters of the State are connected with the Balasore town by a telegraph line and the imperial post runs to and from the headquarters *via* Balasore.

LAND REVENUE ADMINISTRATION. The land revenue system is similar to that prevailing in the other States: the land revenue demand is Rs. 53,689. The last settlement was completed in 1898. There are no zamindaris in the State and no cesses are levied.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION. The terms of the *sanad* granted in 1894, which was revised in 1908, regulate the relation between the State and the British Government: an annual tribute of Rs. 3,900 is paid. The State has an estimated income of about Rs. 1,37,000. In the year 1907-08 the forest revenue amounted to Rs. 12,555. Civil suits are numerous, but petty: the number of suits instituted in 1907-08 was 350. Crime mostly consists of petty theft and burglary. The number of cases reported to the police in 1907-08 was 225. The police force consists of one Inspector, 3 Sub-Inspectors, 4 Head-Constables and 36 men. The jail accommodation is small and a new jail is about to be erected. In 1907-08 the average daily population was 13. There is a regular Public Works Department and the State has good public buildings. In 1907-08 the State spent Rs. 47,261 on account of public works.

FINANCES.
Forest.
Civil Justice.
Crime.
Police.
Jail.
Public Works Department.
EDUCATION. In 1907-08 the number of schools in the State was 87, consisting of one Middle English school, 10 Upper Primary schools, 37 Lower Primary schools, two Sanskrit *cols* and one *Guru*-training school. The number of students on the rolls was 1,987, and the expenditure by the State amounted to Rs. 11,692 and the grant from Government was Rs. 2,347. The people are appreciative of the benefits of education and several of the Lower Primary schools are privately maintained. Special attention is paid to the education of the Santals. There are two special schools for girls and one for aborigines.

CHAPTER XVIII.

PAL LAHARA STATE.

THE State of Pál Lahará lies between $21^{\circ} 9'$ and $21^{\circ} 41' N.$, PHYSICAL
ASPECTS. and $85^{\circ} 0'$ and $85^{\circ} 24' E.$, with an area of 452 square miles. It is bounded on the north by the Bonai State; on the east by the Keonjhar State; on the south by the Talcher State; and on the west by the Bámra State. The east and north of the State are occupied by hills. A magnificent hill, Malayagiri (3,895 feet), one of the loftiest peaks in the States of Orissa, towers above the lesser ranges. The State is for the most part a region of wild hill ranges densely covered with forest in which *sal* (*Shorea robusta*) abounds. The *sal* forests are the finest in Orissa, but are, from the nature of the country, very inaccessible: towards the south on the Talcher border there is a certain extent of open country dispersed with smaller hill ranges. The high hills to the north form the central portion of the mass of tangled hill ranges, which stretch into the Bonai and Keonjhar States. There are no rivers in the State, but numerous hill streams which frequently come down in heavy spate sweeping away the hamlets perched on their banks. The distinguishing feature of the country is the Malayagiri peak; the ascent is made from the south-western side and a rough hill-path has been made: the ascent is steep and prolonged, but presents no real difficulty to the transport of goods by hand. The path winds up over bold spurs with magnificent views of the plains of the Talcher and Dhenkanál States in the distance, and two ranges are climbed before the final ascent is reached. The actual summit is a narrow plateau nowhere more than half a mile wide and in parts less. It is formed by a depression on the top of the hill and is about half a mile long; at either end rise up two bold peaks of bare rock: the western peak is the actual summit of Malayagiri and rises almost precipitously: on its western and northern fronts it is quite inaccessible and falls away in a sheer precipice of many hundred feet: below to the west stretches out a fine range of hills running westwards in two parallel ridges with a valley between them, the level of the valley being about 1,500 feet: seen from above the range gives the

appearance of a vast trough clad with dense forest : to the north-east the whole range of Malayagiri falls away precipitously : for a distance of nearly half a mile the hill on the south-western side slopes away fairly gradually and on this side would afford suitable sites for building but the area is limited : there is a spring near the top of the hill on the south-western side and a small reservoir has been constructed. The Chief has erected a small bungalow on the summit. The average rainfall for the six years from 1902-03 to 1907-08 was 60·07 inches. The headquarters of the State are at Pāl Laharā.

HISTORY. This State is alleged to have been founded by Santosh Pāl of Dharānagar, some time before the 18th century. The original limits of the State cannot be accurately given. During the 18th century the State appears to have attained its largest limits, consisting of 198 villages, 131 of which were subsequently forcibly taken possession of by the Keonjhar, Talcher and Dhenkanāl Rājās, leaving under its sway only 67 villages, which now comprise an area of 452 square miles.

No Chief of Pāl Laharā is said to have obtained any *farmān* or *sanad* from the Mughals or Marathās. The Chiefs of this State were formerly styled zamindars. The late Chief received from Government the personal title of Rājā Bahādur, in recognition of the services he rendered in suppressing the Bhuiyā rebellion in Keonjhar in 1867-68 A.D. In 1874 A.D. he was vested with the hereditary title of Rājā. No Mādālā Pānji or any family history of the Rāj family is available ; tradition, however, runs that Santosh Pāl was the founder of the present ruling family. He is said to have belonged to the Paumar Rājputs of Dharānagar. He went to Puri on pilgrimage with a body of followers, and while returning home was selected by the Savars, Khonds, Malhārs, and Jhorās as their Chief. He settled at Laharā and subdued the aboriginal tribes who were then contending among themselves for supremacy. He was called Pāl because the Savars concealed him under a heap of straw (*pālū*) while fighting with his followers, who were all defeated and put to death. From the official enquiries that were made during the settlement of the dispute that arose between the Mahārājā of Keonjhar and the zamindār of Pāl Laharā regarding the supremacy of the former, it was stated that 52 generations had already held sway in Pāl Laharā up to A.D. 1778. During that year the Chief, Muni Pāl, died without male issue. After his death the management of the State remained for about 47 years in the exclusive hands of his mother, Anna Pūrnā, and of his illegitimate brother Nanda Pāl.

Anna Pūrnā died in A.D. 1815. Nanda Pāl acknowledged the supremacy of Keonjhar and remained in charge of the management of the State till he died in 1825. The people of Pāl Laharā after his death resisted the claims of Keonjhar, but being defeated, submitted a petition to Colonel Gilbert, the then Political Agent of the South-Western Frontier. Colonel Gilbert ordered the withdrawal of the Keonjhar force from Pāl Laharā, and allowed the people to select their own Chief. They chose one Baidya Nāth Pāl, one of the paternal uncles of the late Chief Muni Pāl, whose family has since held the *gadi* for three generations.

The titles of "Ganeswar Pāl" and "Muni Pāl" are assumed alternately by the successive Rajās of Pāl Laharā when succeeding to the *gadi*. The emblem of the State is a cobra.

The population increased from 19,700 in 1891 to 22,351 in 1901; it is distributed among 265 villages. The density is 49 ^{THE} ^{PEOPLE.} persons to the square mile, or less than in any other of the Orissa States except Rairakhol and Bonai. Hindus number 20,770, Animists 1,540, and Muhammadans 41, the most numerous castes being Chasās (5,000) and Pans (4,000). The leaf-wearing Juāngs are still met with in the outskirts of the Malayagiri range. They are extremely shy and retiring, but still wear their costumes of *asan* leaves in the more remote portions of this State and in some of the inaccessible recesses of the neighbouring hill ranges of Bonai and Keonjhar: the costume consists of a few leaves pinned together worn over the person by men and in the case of women an apron made of leaves is worn: no other covering is worn. The population is classified as follows:—Hindus—males, 10,134, females, 10,636, total of Hindus, 20,770 or 92·9 per cent. of the population of the State; proportion of males in total Hindus, 48·7 per cent. Musalmāns—males, 25, females, 16, total of Musalmāns 41 or 0·18 per cent. of the population; proportion of males in total Musalmāns 60·9 per cent. Christians—*nil*. Population of all denominations—males, 10,861, females, 11,490; proportion of males in total population, 48·5 per cent. The number of persons able to read and write is 518 or 2·3 per cent of the total population. Averages—Villages per square mile 0·58; persons per village 84; houses per square mile 11; houses per village 19·5; persons per house 4·3. Of the aboriginal tribes the Savars are the most numerous. The Bhuīyās inhabit the hills and high valley lands to the north which with the ranges stretching into Bonai and Keonjhar form their ancestral homes. The people are extremely backward, but contented, their demands are few and they live

for preference very largely on forest fruits and roots. There are 265 villages in the State, but in none does the population amount to five hundred.

**PUBLIC
HEALTH.**

The nature of the country renders it very unhealthy to strangers who suffer severely from malaria. The inhabitants suffer to a certain extent from malaria, but not to such a degree as would be expected, from the dense jungle and heavy rainfall. The vital statistics for ten years from 1893 to 1902 show the average ratio of births per mille as 18·38 and deaths 10·42, but little reliance can be placed on them. There is a small dispensary at headquarters with an indoor ward in charge of a Civil Hospital Assistant : 3,690 patients were treated in 1907-08. Vaccination is in charge of a special Civil Hospital Assistant who also renders medical aid in the interior and attends to village sanitation : 1,164 children were vaccinated in 1907-08; of this number 655 were primary vaccinations and 509 re-vaccinations. The aboriginal and backward tribes are very averse to vaccination.

**AGRICUL-
TURE.**

Agriculture is of the crudest. The system most popular is to cut the light forest in the hill sides, burn it and raise a crop on it for one or two years and then abandon the site. The Juāṅga, in especial, practise only this form of cultivation and, endeavouring to settle down to regular cultivation. The cultivation of the plain country is very inferior and every tenant as far as possible practises *dahi* cultivation as well. The coarse varieties of rice are grown and also millets. The total acreage of the State is 289,280 acres, of which 262,352 are forests, unculturable waste 4,297; the normal area under crops is 16,982 acres, of which 9,810 acres are under rice: oil-seeds are normally sown on 3,250 acres, of which 1,400 acres are under linseed and 1,250 under *tīl* (*sesamum*); 400 acres are normally under *māṇḍiā* and 600 under maize.

**RENTS,
WAGES
AND
PRICES.**

The assessment is light and the average rate for first, second and third class rice lands is Rs. 2-7-6, Rs. 2-1-4 and Re. 1-11-1, respectively per acre and for uplands, Re. 0-14-0 per acre. During the period from 1893 to 1902 the rate of daily wages has remained stationary and has averaged as follows: superior mason, six annas, common mason, four annas, superior carpenter, six annas, common carpenter, four annas, cooly, 2½ annas, superior blacksmith, six annas, common blacksmith, four annas. The price of rice, gram and salt during the same period has shown no tendency to rise and the rates have averaged 25½ seers, 33½ seers and 7½ seers respectively.

The only occupations followed are the cultivation of lac and rearing of tusser cocoons, the collection of wild honey, myrobalans and other forest produce by the jungle tribes. Trade in the real sense there is none : a certain amount of timber is sold and exported and traders barter for the jungle products with salt, tobacco and spices.

OCCUPA-
TIONS,
MANUFAC-
TURES
AND
TRADE.

There is a good road from the headquarters south to Sibpur in the Talcher State and the same road continues on the north-east to the border of Keonjhar : this portion of the road and its continuation due west to the border of the Bāmra State was formerly the old Sambalpur-Midnapore road.

MEANS OF
COMMUNI-
CATION.

There is a staging bungalow at the headquarters and at Kamār, an important village on the road to Talcher. There is a post office at headquarters and the post travels *via* Talcher to Angul.

The last settlement was made under Government direction in 1905-06 during the period the State was under Court of Wards : special care was taken to enforce the prohibition against sale, mortgage or transfer of holdings and to guard against the lands of aboriginals being leased out by the village headmen to the more advanced class of cultivators ; long rent-free periods are granted to clearers of new cultivation. The land revenue demand is Rs. 21,237, and is collected without difficulty : the Bhuiyās pay a house tax of Re. 1 per house per annum : besides this they pay in kind one *khandi* (35 seers) of *birhi* per house per annum.

REVENUE
ADMINIS-
TRATION.

As in the case of the other States of the group formerly known as the Tributary Mahāls of Orissa the *sanad* of 1908 regulates the relationship between the State and the British Government. The State has for some years been on account of minority under Government management and has only recently been restored to the Chief, who conducts the administration with the assistance of a *Diwān*. The Chief on succession is bound to pay *nazarāna* to the British Government. The State pays to the British Government a tribute of Rs. 267, and its annual revenue is about Rs. 38,000. The income of the State is very limited and its finances have to be very carefully administered. The State contains some of the finest *sāl* (*Suarea robusta*) forests in Orissa, and during the period of administration by Government a regular forest department was created under a qualified forest officer and detailed forest rules introduced : the forests were divided into reserved and protected and demarcation and survey has been practically completed. The finest range is that of Malayagiri. The forests yielded a revenue of Rs. 6,952 in 1907-08 and the

GENERAL
ADMINIS-
TRATION.

FINANCES.

FORESTS.

Excise.	revenue is expanding. The excise revenue amounted to Rs. 1,630
Civil	in 1907-08. Institutions of civil suits are very few and the suits
justice.	are of a petty nature; in 1907-08 the number of civil suits
	instituted was 22 only, of which 80.9 per cent were below the
Crime.	value of Rs. 50. Crime is exceedingly light: the number of
Police.	cases reported to the police in 1907-08 was 121. The police force
	consists of one Sub-Inspector, 4 Head-Constables and 14 con-
Jail.	stables. The jail has accommodation for 10 prisoners. The
	State possesses the necessary public buildings, but only the
Public	courts and offices are masonry. The State spent Rs. 2,647 on
Works.	account of public works in 1907-08.
EDUCA-	The State maintains an Upper Primary school at the head-
TION.	quarters and 32 aided Lower Primary schools. The total number
	of pupils reading in schools in 1907-08 was 577. The Upper
	Primary school at headquarters is a commodious building with
	a hostel attached. The Government grant amounted in 1907-08
	to Rs. 360. Education is extremely backward and there is little
	or no demand for it by the people; under great difficulty parents
	are persuaded to send their boys to school and then constantly
	take them away to roam the forests.

CHAPTER XIX.

PATNA STATE.

THE State of Patnā, in Orissa, lies between 20° 9' and 21° 4' N., and between 82° 41' and 83° 40' E.; and is bounded on the north by the Borāsambar zamindāri of the Sambalpur district; on the east by the State of Sonpur; on the west by the zamindāri of Khariār, belonging to the Raipur district in the Central Provinces; and on the south by the State of Kalahandi. The average length is about fifty miles long by as many miles broad, with an area of 2,399 square miles. The country is an undulating plain, rugged and isolated, with hill-ranges rising in various directions, a lofty irregular range forming a natural boundary to the north. The soil is for the most part light and sandy, about two-thirds of the whole area are under cultivation, the rest being for the most part forests and scrub-jungle. The main forest area of the State stretches along the western boundary starting from Bangomundā in the Patnā State and running parallel with the border of the Khariār zamindāri, in the Raipur district and then turning to the north runs parallel with the Borāsambar zamindāri of the Sambalpur district. This tract is broken by occasional clearings and small settlements, but is for the most part dense forest in which bamboo of excellent quality predominates and fine *sāl* (*Shorea robusta*), *sahāj* (*Terminalia tomentosa*), *piāsāl* (*Pterocarpus marsupium*), *dhaurā* (*Lagarstæmia parviflora*) and ebony (*Diospyros melanoxylon*), are the principal timber with *sāl* predominating. In the forests tiger, leopard, bison, bear, spotted and barking deer, *sambur* and mouse deer are met with. The finest compact forest area starts near Haldi, about 10 miles south-east of Bangomundā and stretches away to the south and east through Lapher, gradually thinning out till it meets the main road which runs south through the State from Bolāngir, the headquarters, to Kalāhandi: this tract contains *sāl* of fine quality in abundance. From Bolāngir to the Tel river large tracts of light forest extend to a considerable distance on both sides of the main road and contain some good *sāl*, *piāsāl*, *sahāj* and other timber, but are considerably broken up by cultivation, and there are some large villages located in this area.

PHYSICAL
ASPECTS.

the principal being Deogaon and Saintalā. At a distance of 7 miles from Bolāngir there is a fine range of hills carrying excellent timber and the tract is kept as reserved forest: from this range rises the high peak Muktāi (2,259 feet): this peak is a conspicuous feature in the landscape for many miles from Bolāngir. The north-western boundary is formed by the magnificent range of hills known as Gandha Mardan, which separates the Patnā State at this point from the Borāsambar zamindāri. On the northern crest of this range springs the famous stream which descends to the foot of the hill in fine waterfalls and finally issues forth to the plains at Narsinghnāth, a sacred and famous place of pilgrimage in the Sambalpur district: on the southern slope a similar stream issues from the crest of the range and is known as Harisankar, and at the foot of the hill, a few miles from the village Sargipali in the Patnā State, where the stream reaches the plains, there is a fine orange grove and temple, frequented by pilgrims. The crest of this range of hills is a fine plateau some ten miles long with an average height of 3,000 feet and rising as high as 3,234 feet. The principal rivers are, the Tel, which forms the boundary on the south-east between Patnā and Kalāhandi; the Ang, which divides Patnā from the Sonpur State on the north; the Suktel, and the Sunder.

The temperature is very much the same as that of the plains elsewhere; in the cool months the thermometer is often as low as 45° F. at daybreak, and at midday rarely rises above 80°. The hot months are from April to the middle of June, the thermometer rising then sometimes as high as 112° in the shade. The average rainfall during the 14 years from 1894-95 to 1907-08 was 52·18 inches. The climate in the more open areas of the State is healthy and the headquarters of the State are certainly salubrious. The forest areas are naturally malarious, and strangers moving through them or settling in their neighbourhood suffer greatly from fever, but the indigenous settlers are robust and healthy in appearance. Iron ore and graphite occur in the south of the State.

HISTORY.

The Patnā State was formerly the most important of all the States attached to the Sambalpur district, and the head of a cluster of States known as the eighteen Garhjāts or forts. According to tradition one Ramāi Deva, of the Chauhān race, obtained the *gadi* of the Patnā State some 600 years ago. While the Chauhān family may perhaps have held their *gadi* for twenty-seven generations, it is hardly likely that this family dates back more than five hundred years, and an inscription on a stone discovered in the Patnā State throws light on this point. The

inscription referred to bears the date 1253 of the Śalibāhana era (1351 A.D.) which was in vogue with the Chiefs of the Gangabansa family: and the inference is that at the date of the inscription, which is thus 557 years old, the Patnā State was held by Gangabansi Chiefs. It may, however, be accepted that the period, the Chauhān family held the *gadi* of the State, extends back for a period of not much less than five hundred years.

As to the families which preceded the Chauhāns, there seems reason for believing that the State was at one time under the Sūryabansi Rājās. There exists at the present time in fair preservation at Sālebhāṭṭā in the Patnā State an ancient temple dedicated to Birinchi Nārāyan Devatā, the sun-god. Images dug up on the spot establish the nature of the worship originally practised there, and the form of the images, as well as the design of the temple, tally precisely with those found in the temple at Baidyanath, in the Sonpur State, which contains inherent evidence of being the work of Sūryabansi Chiefs. No archaeological remains of more ancient date than those ascribed to the Sūryabansis have been discovered either in Patnā or in the adjacent States, and tradition assigns to that family the earliest administration of Patnā.

Another curious fact is that at Rānipur-Jhariā, in the south of the Patnā State a stone was found in one of the many ancient temples that exist there, inscribed with the name of Someswar Deva. Similar inscriptions appear to have been found in the Bastar State, and these facts would imply that the Bastar State and the southern portion of the Patna State were formerly under one and the same Chief. More satisfactory evidence exists to show that at a comparatively recent period the Patnā State was under the sway of the Rājās of Vizianagram. Tradition among the Khonds asserts that they at one time paid taxes to the Rājās of Kalinga, which is to this day a common term to describe the Vizagapatam littoral. Moreover a copper lease or *tambā-pattā* granted by a former Vizianagram Chief to the ancient holders of the village of Bakati in Patnā, and the discovery of a similar lease relating to a village in the Sonpur State go far to confirm the tradition that the Vizianagram Chief's power extended to Patnā. Chiefs of the Bhojbans family are also said to have held the *gadi* of Patnā for some time and the tank at Patnāgarh called the Bhawasāgar is attributed to them; but tradition regarding them is vague.

Coming to more recent times it would appear that the Chauhān family which was inaugurated by Ramāi Deva was immediately preceded by a state of affairs under which the

Patnā State was administered by eight joint superiors each of whom held power by turn for one day at a time, the eight Chiefs being each in charge of a *garh* or fort and their administration being called the *Ath-mālik*.

Representatives of these Chiefs are found even at the present day in Patnā, and though the living claimants may have but shadowy titles to represent the former Chiefs, the manner in which the *Ath-mālik* administration was succeeded by that of Ramāi Deva is described by local tradition with such detail as to bear the semblance of truth. As it is the turning point in the claim of the Chauhān family to be descended from the Rājput Rājās of Garh Shambar, it is worth mentioning.

It is said that one Hamir Deva had fled from Garh Shambar and established himself at Mānikgarh fort in the hills of Khariār. On one occasion before proceeding to battle he took leave of his seven wives and told them that should he not return they would be apprised of his death by the homeward flight of some carrier pigeons. He failed to return and was never afterwards heard of; the return of the pigeons satisfied his Rānis that he had fallen. Six of them drowned themselves in the pool called Rāmdarha near Narsinghnāth to the north of the Patnā State and the remaining Rāni was found wandering in the jungles near Rāmud on the border between Patnā and Khariār. She was kindly treated by her preserver, a Binjhāl: in due course she was delivered of a child—Ramāi Deva—who put an end to the *Ath-mālik gadi* by murdering the eight Chiefs and himself assuming supremacy over the eight *garhs* (forts) which he welded into the compact State of Patnā, and thus introduced the administration of the Chauhān family. The precise spot of Ramāi Deva's birth is still pointed out, and the circumstances under which it occurred are still described with interest by those conversant with Patnā traditions.

A detailed account of the Patnā family was written by Major Impey in 1863, from which the following sketch is abstracted.

The Mahārājās of Patnā claim direct descent from a race of Rājput Rājās of Garh Shambar, near Mainpuri and trace it through thirty-one generations. It is alleged that Hitāmbhar Singh, the last of these Rājās, offended the Rājā of Delhi and was killed; that his family had to abandon their country and fly in every direction; and that one of his wives who was at the time *enccinte*, found her way down to Patnā. Patnā was, it seems, at that time, represented by a cluster of eight *garhs* (forts) and the Chief of each *garh* took it in turn to hold powers for a day over the whole. The Chief of Khulāgarh received the Rāni

kindly and in due time she gave birth to a boy, who was called Ramai Deva. The Chief adopted him and eventually abdicated in his favour, and when it came to his turn to hold powers over the whole, he took the first opportunity of causing the Chiefs of the other seven *garhs* to be murdered and setting himself up as the Chief over the whole with the title of Mahārājā. He contrived to preserve his position through the influence that he obtained by a marriage with a daughter of the then Rājā of Orissa. Between the periods of Ramai Deva and Baijal Deva II, the tenth Mahārājā or during a period of some 300 years, there was a considerable acquisition of territory made by Patnā, viz., the States of Khariār and Bindra Nawāgarh on the west; Phuljhar and Sīrangarh to the north; Bonai, Gāngpur and Bāmra to the north-east, which were all made tributary dependencies; while the zamindari of Rairākhhol, as well as a tract of land to the eastward on the left bank of the Mahānadi, was annexed. A fort was erected in Phuljhar, and the Chandrapur *pargana* (tract), also on the left bank of the Mahānadi, was forcibly wrested from the Chief of Ratanpur. Narsingh Deva, the twelfth Mahārājā of Patnā, ceded to his brother Balrām Deva all such portions of his territories as lay north of the river Ang. The latter founded a new State (Sambalpur) which very soon afterwards by acquisition of territory in every direction became the most powerful of all the Garhijāts; while from the same time the power of Patnā commenced to decline.

Garh Shambar was the famous seat of Chauhan power in Rājputāna, while Mainpuri was apparently in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh. The following account gives a fairly correct and accurate description of the Rāj family.

It appears from the Koshlīnand, a local work on the history of the Patnā Rāj family, that Baijal Deva, the third Chief from Ramai Deva, was the most powerful Chief and extended his dominions far and wide. He fought with Rām Chandra and Mahaling, Gajapatis of Orissa for six years. Bāmra was reduced to an annual tribute of 16 elephants. Gāngpur, Bonai, and other neighbouring States submitted without a fight, and Baud and Sirguja also submitted. It is said that 72 Chiefs were made tributary to Patnā by Baijal Deva I. Dhenkānāl was also subdued and the temple of the golden Mahāleo at Sonpur was built by him.

Batsarāj Deva the successor of Baijal Deva I, was defeated by the Orissa Chief, who seems to have overrun the Patnā State and defeated its Chief. Nothing of importance happened in the time of the next six Chiefs.

The Chief Bhanjan Hirādhara Deva was called to Puri by the Gajapati and made a prisoner for 10 months. Hirādhara Deva then attacked Orissa with a very large army and defeated Rām Chandra Deva Gajapati and entered into a treaty with him.

It was about this time that there was a war with Bastar. The Rājā of Bastar was taken prisoner and put to death, and his brother was placed on the *gadi* of Bastar on the condition of his agreeing to pay an annual tribute of Rs. 30,000. A sister of the Patnā Mahārāja was at this time married to Mukunda Deva Gajapati of Orissa. Mahārāja Bhūpāl Deva, the 24th Chief from Ramāi Deva, granted the Jarāsinghā zamindāri as a maintenance grant to his younger brother Jugrāj Singh. He also granted the Agalpur zamindāri to his 6 sons for their maintenance.

In 1755 A.D. the State fell under the dominion of the Marāthās of Nāgpur, but was ceded to the British Government by the treaty of 1803 with Raghujī Bhonslā. It was restored to the Marāthās in 1806, and in 1818 reverted again to the British Government. On this occasion many dependencies of Patnā were separated from it and made independent. The State was under the control of the Bengal Government till 1861, when it was included in the Central Provinces. Enquiries made between 1863 and 1866 into the status of the Chiefs and zamindārs of the Central Provinces resulted in Patnā being classed as a Feudatory State.

Mahārāja Hirā Bajra Deva died in 1866 A.D. In 1869 owing to mismanagement there was a rising of the Khonds. It was suppressed, but it was believed that the Chief's brother Lal Bishnāth Singh and his followers had committed many atrocities: for these crimes Lal Bishnāth Singh was removed from the State, the Chief himself deposed and the State passed under Court of Wards in 1871. Mahārāja Sūr Pratāp Deva died in 1878 leaving no male issue. He was succeeded by his brother's son Rām Chandra Singh Deva who was educated at the Jabbalpur Rāj Kumār College. The Court of Wards' management was withdrawn in 1894: the Chief died on 8th June 1895. As he left no male issue he was succeeded by his uncle Mahārāja Dalganjan Singh Deva, who was born in 1856. In 1900 the State suffered severely from famine, and want of control led to a severe out-break of dacoity which extended into the Sambalpur district. A force of Government police had to be deputed to Patnā to suppress the outbreak.

The State was transferred from the Central Provinces and placed under the charge of the Commissioner of the Orissa Division on the 16th October 1905.